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REPORT

OF THE

HURST INLET PATROL

ROYAL NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE

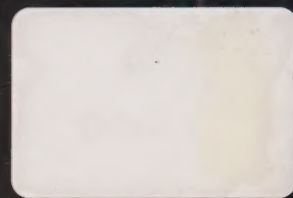
1917-1918

OTTAWA

J. DE LABROQUERIE TACHÉ

PRINTER TO THE KING'S MOST EXCELLENT MAJESTY

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REPORT OF THE BATHURST INLET PATROL, ROYAL NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE. 1917-18.

INTRODUCTION.

In 1911 two white men, Mr. H. V. Radford and Mr. T. G. Street, undertook a journey in the Far North. Mr. Radford was an American who had done some exploring in the northern areas, and had made collections for the United States Biological Society of Washington; Mr. Street, who was a younger man, was a Canadian, a native of Ottawa. They wintered near Schultz lake, and early in 1912 reached Bathurst inlet, intending to proceed westward along the Arctic coast to Fort McPherson; at Bathurst inlet they found an encampment of Eskimos of a tribe which had had little intercourse with white men. The Eskimos who had brought them on their way from Schultz lake turned back; the travellers had arranged to procure assistance in travelling from the Eskimos among whom they now found themselves. This was in the first days of June, 1912.

Next spring reports reached civilization that they had been murdered by the Eskimos on 5th June, 1912. Under date of 31st May, 1913, Sergeant W. G. Edgenton, who was in command of the post at Fullerton, reported the occurrence, the particulars as he received them proving to be substantially accurate. A few days later one of the Eskimos who had travelled with the ill-fated men from Schultz lake came to Chesterfield inlet, and gave a statement to Mr. H. H. Hall, the manager of the Hudson's Bay trading post there; this was reported by Mr. Hall to his immediate superior in the following letter, under date of 11th June, 1913:—

“The Eskimo Akulack, who took the Radford party from Schultz lake to Bathurst inlet, arrived to-day and reported that both Mr. Radford and Mr. Street were murdered by the Bathurst Inlet Eskimos. Cow-muck, Mr. Ford's trader at Schultz lake, was the first to bring down the news, but as I generally take little stock in Indian yarns, I placed very little confidence in it until I saw Akulack myself.

“Both Mr. Ford and myself questioned him twice to-day, and his version of the story was practically the same as Cow-muck's.

“Akulack left Mr. Radford about the 5th of June, and spent the summer a little south of the Eskimos, but came in contact with them several times, and also bought a wife from them some time after the murder, whom he bought and paid for with a rifle.

“When Akulack parted from Mr. Radford, it appears that everything was in good order; he had his men engaged, and all preparations were completed for his departure; the two men engaged were supposed to guide him to a whaler that was wintering some 60 miles west of point Barrow, and with whom the Bathurst Eskimos sometimes trade.

“Mr. Radford was about to make a start; in fact, the man supposed to go ahead had started when the other backed out and would not go, and Mr. Radford, to enforce obedience, struck him with the handle of a whip; a fight ensued and Mr. Radford was speared in the back by another native. Mr. Street made a run for the sleigh, but was murdered before he had time to put up any kind of a fight.

“According to the story told Akulack by one of the natives who was supposed to have witnessed the fight, ‘Ne-ve-lie,’ and by the father of his new wife, Mr. Radford put up quite a fight before he gave in, and had to be speared

several times before he fell, and as life still lingered as he lay on the ground, he got the finishing touch by getting his throat cut. Akulack, on being asked why the Eskimo refused to accompany Mr. Radford, said that the man's wife was suddenly taken ill, and Mr. Radford, not understanding the Eskimos' language, must have taken a wrong meaning and tried to enforce obedience. Akulack named the principal murderers as 'Hull-la-lark' and 'Am-me-ker-nic.'

"This report, like all others from the Indians, might be false, but as Akulack is considered a first-class and reliable Eskimo, and as I tried to impress upon him the consequences resulting from any false statements made by him on such persons, Mr. Radford and Mr. Street, and the determined way in which he excluded his wife's relations from all blame and his unwillingness to go back into that country as a trader, I have no doubt that there is a certain amount of truth in his statements.

"While I was inland, I had an Eskimo trading with the same band named 'Ka-ka-mi,' and from what I learned from him, the majority are still in their primitive state and are still using bow and arrow, and that all quarrels and disputes are generally settled by the death of one of the combatants.

"If this report is true, there is one thing I can say, that Mr. Radford showed poor judgment when he tried to enforce obedience by striking an Eskimo so far from civilization.

"Mr. Radford wrote to Mr. Fred. Ford from Bathurst inlet, dated 3rd June, and everything seemed to be O.K. then, and he also expressed his thanks for the assistance given him. Conditions must have changed very quickly, for five days after Akulack's departure they were murdered."

For some time uncertainty prevailed as to the truth of this account, and one or two false reports as to the reappearance at remote places of one or both of the missing men had to be investigated. The region where the tragedy occurred is peculiarly inaccessible; and it was recognized that the work of investigation would be difficult and tedious. Superintendent Starnes, in September, 1913, estimated that the capture of those responsible would take "the best part of two years," and recommended that the party comprise: one officer; one N.C. officer of experience with Eskimos, winter travelling and boating; two or three constables, good winter travellers; a good interpreter.

Superintendent Starnes suggested that a small schooner be sent to Churchill, should load supplies for two years for the party and its prisoners and witnesses, and should then go as far up Chesterfield inlet as possible and establish a base of supplies. From that point the party should work by boat or canoe to the end of the open water, and there establish a second base of supplies from which the overland journey with sleds and dogs could be made.

A little later Superintendent Demers, commanding "M" Division, with headquarters at Churchill, reported that the expedition should be equipped for three years.

A number of untoward circumstances, which included the wreck of the Hudson's Bay Company's schooner in the autumn, prevented further investigation in 1913.

Early in 1914 the Government approved the sending of an expedition, on the general lines suggested by Superintendent Starnes, and approved by Commissioner Perry. Inspector W. J. Beyts was appointed to lead the expedition, and he sailed on 31st July, 1914, from Halifax in the schooner *Village Belle*, which had been purchased for the purpose; the party which left Halifax comprised Inspector Beyts, one non-commissioned officer and two constables. Owing to unusually bad weather, the party did not reach the Hudson Bay coast until too late in the season to carry out the plan of establishing a post at Baker lake.

In 1915 Inspector Beyts completed the task of establishing the advanced post at Baker lake; this proved an unexpectedly tedious task, partly owing to very rough weather on Baker lake, and partly owing to the exceptional difficulties

of transportation which were encountered. In the winter of 1915-16, Inspector Beyts made two attempts to make the journey from Baker lake to Bathurst inlet, but these were frustrated, principally by the scarcity of deer which prevailed in that region in that year. The party had to rely upon game for dog-feed, it being impossible to transport a sufficient supply of this with them, and the deer are capricious in their movements. The natives suffered severely from the absence of these animals, losing most of their dogs from starvation. "In one instance," reported Inspector Beyts, "I saw a party moving camp with one dog, two women, and a native hitched to the sledge. Another instance I encountered was that only six dogs were left amongst ten families." A circumstance which aggravated the difficulties experienced was the absence of fuel.

In the summer of 1916, Inspector Beyts was relieved by Inspector F. H. French; the latter arrived at Baker lake on 20th September. The autumn and winter were spent making preparations. Writing in January, 1917, Inspector French observed: "I hope to make a successful trip, commencing in March next; my only difficulty is the inevitable dog-feed question, which seems to rise at every point a man moves in this country, so devoid of timber and vegetation. If I can only procure the game along the line of march, I feel sure I shall be able to bring the patrol to a successful termination. We shall be able to carry enough rations for the return trip, and will have to take our chances, along with the dogs, in this respect, and depend on the country. As far as being able to establish a friendly footing amongst the Killin-e-muits, I have not the slightest doubt, if we can only get across the barrens dividing us, without hitch."

It is at this point that Inspector French's reports take up the story.

It may be added that during this period additional information about the murder from time to time was obtained. For instance, Inspector LaNauze in his patrol to arrest the murderers of Fathers Rouvière and Le Roux (which was made from the direction of Great Bear lake) heard an account of it which coincided in its main outlines with the story as heard in 1913, and with the conclusions reached by Inspector French after the careful investigation which is recorded in the ensuing pages.

The commissioner's instructions to Inspector French were as follows: "It will be your duty to get in touch at the earliest possible moment with the tribes said to be responsible for the deaths. You will make inquiries and take such statutory declarations as may seem necessary in order to obtain a full and accurate account of the occurrence. From information received, it is assumed that there was provocation. If this is found to be the case, it is not the intention of the Government to proceed with prosecution. If, however, there was found to be no provocation, the Government will consider what further action is to be taken."

LETTER OF TRANSMISSION.

ROYAL NORTHWEST MOUNTED POLICE,
COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE,
REGINA, SASK., May 27, 1918.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith the following reports just received from Inspector French:—

1. Crime Report, dated Baker Lake Detachment, January 31, 1918, covering the period from June 13, 1917, to September 1, 1917.
2. Crime Report, dated Baker Lake Detachment, January 31, 1918, covering the period from September 1, 1917, to January 29, 1918.
3. General Report, dated Bernard Harbour, Northwest Territories, June 16, 1917.
4. Crime Report, dated Baker Lake Detachment, June 20, 1917.
5. Crime Report, dated Baker Lake Detachment, July 5, 1917.
6. Crime Report, dated Baker Lake Detachment, July 5, 1917.
7. Crime Report, dated Baker Lake Detachment, July 5, 1917.
8. One envelope containing one book, the property of H. V. Radford, referred to in the report.

I would specially call attention to the strenuous work of Inspector French, Sergeant-Major Caulkin, and the members of this—I believe one of the greatest patrols ever made by the Police.

I have the honour to be, sir,
Your obedient servant,

JAS. O. WILSON,
Asst. Commissioner.

The Comptroller,
R.N.W.M. Police,
Ottawa, Ont.

(NOTE.—These reports have been arranged in their chronological order.)

FIRST REPORT—THE JOURNEY TO THE ARCTIC.

“M” DIVISION, R.N.W.M. POLICE,
BERNARD HARBOUR, NORTHWEST TERRITORIES,
DOLPHIN AND UNION STRAITS, June 16, 1917.

The Officer Commanding,
R.N.W.M. Police,
Port Nelson.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward to you a general report of a patrol made from Baker Lake, N.W.T., to Bernard Harbour on the Arctic Coast.

On March 21, 1917, I left Baker Lake Detachment with Reg. No. 4557 Sergt.-Major Caulkin, T.B., Police Natives “Joe” and “By and Bye,” and hired native “Quash-ak” and native woman Solomon, taking three teams of police dogs (25), sleds, and two canoes.

We proceeded west across Baker lake, calling at our first cache, where we took up most of our supplies and coal oil for the patrol. One month's rations for six were all we were able to leave with, as with all our camp equipment and coal oil we were heavily loaded. After the month's rations were finished we were to subsist as best we could if game were procurable.

We reached the west end of Baker lake at 9 p.m. on March 22 and camped for the night. As we were not able to reach our first cache of dog-feed, and not having any dog-feed with us, we were unable to feed our dogs.

On the morning of March 23 I sent Sergt.-Major Caulkin to a Kinipitoo encampment on the northwest end of the lake, and here he was able to purchase 10 large deer, and also to procure the services of a native with a dog-team to accompany us as far as Schultz lake and to assist in carrying our dog-feed and coal oil. We cut overland from Baker lake to Schultz lake, following a series of small lakes, striking a deer bay on the southeast shore on March 26, where we made camp.

The weather from March 21 to March 26 had been clear and cold, but on this latter date it commenced to storm and continued to do so till April 2, when we were able to break camp, proceeding to Aberdeen lake. During this part of the patrol it was continually storming and we were frequently held up. We reached the east end of Aberdeen lake on April 5 and there found an encampment of Shan-ing-i-ong-muits and one Pad-i-muit family. We built our igloo alongside and camped with them.

On April 6 I sent Sergt.-Major Caulkin and natives deer-hunting and they returned in late afternoon having shot 12 deer. From the time of our arrival at Schultz lake we had been able to kill sufficient deer to feed ourselves and dogs on fresh meat, although the deer were not very plentiful, so that as a precaution against a shortage of dog-feed I was compelled to carry two or three days' dog-feed in advance on our already heavily-laden sleds.

On April 7 I made arrangements with a native to come with us two days with his dog team and carry dog-feed and also act as guide across the land, as from this point I decided to proceed overland and make for lake Garry on Backe's river. The native was only agreeable to come on the condition that his son could accompany us as well, accordingly I had to accede to his request, to obtain the assistance urgently required.

Leaving Aberdeen lake on April 8 we proceeded in a northwesterly direction overland, having to follow a zig-zag course along ravines as there was no snow on the ridges. The weather was fine and clear and travelling fairly good, although it became apparent that the quantity of snow on the land in this part of the country was smaller than any we had found since leaving Baker lake. The deer appeared to be getting more plentiful as we proceeded farther north, and the prospects generally were good.

On April 10 our native guide and his son returned to their camp, and we were now alone in a strange country, with which none of my natives were acquainted, so we had to travel by compass and endeavour to pick our way as near as possible by this means.

On this date (April 10) the weather changed and became very foggy and stormy, and we were unable to continue. We made a start on the 12th but had to camp again at 2 p.m. owing to a blizzard coming on which continued unceasingly until April 15, when we were again able to continue on our journey to the northwest; but on this date the travelling was very bad and it was surprising to see how little snow there was on the land hereabouts; ahead of us appeared to be a long stretch of absolutely barren rocky country, which we found, upon coming nearer, impossible to cross over, so that we were forced to make a wide detour of this barren area to the northeast. Eventually we arrived on April 16 at lake Garry, although it does not compare in any way with the map we carried. The weather became very foggy and we could not see far ahead, thus making it difficult to obtain the lay of the country and get our bearings.

Our object in view now was to endeavour to locate the Shan-ing-i-ong-muit encampment, and we spent two days (April 17 and 18) looking for this, but without result. On April 10 we proceeded west to lake Pelly, and as it still continued foggy we

were unable to locate the outlet from this lake into Backe's river, so we made camp and spent the next day looking for this outlet, which we could not find owing to fog. It remained foggy until April 24, when we made a break and found the outlet into Backe's river, down which we continued until we arrived at the encampment of Shan-ing-i-ong-muits, where we built our igloo.

At this time I had made up my mind to follow Backe's river up to lake Beachey and strike north from there, as it appeared to me that we were losing considerable time, what with fog and storms and having no knowledge of the country beyond; from the general aspect of the country as far as the quantity was concerned, I felt anxious as to whether we should get back as the snow was now beginning to melt off the land.

However, on meeting the natives at this point, I was told that to proceed upon such a course was impossible, for between lake Beachey and Bathurst inlet there was a large stretch of country consisting of high, barren, rocky hills on which there was usually very little snow and practically considered impossible by the natives for sleds, so that they consequently never used this route.

One of these natives informed me that the route travelled over by the natives coming south from the Arctic coast followed a river which extended inland east of Bathurst inlet and also stated that he himself knew this river and had been along the route as far as the Arctic coast.

I endeavoured to obtain this man's services as guide across country to this river; at first he demurred, saying that it was a country of starvation and hardship, but I offered him a rifle and ammunition to accompany us, and it was not before considerable more conversation had ensued that he consented to do so.

We left this camp on April 26 and proceeded north, and on April 27 we struck a large lake and then continued northwest until May 1, when we were held up for a day by a very bad blizzard. On May 3 we reached the river before mentioned by the native and down it we continued most of the way to the Arctic coast except in some places where we cut across points, as this river in some places is very winding.

On May 4 we were again held up for one day by a northwest blizzard but made another start on May 5, travelling along the west bank of the river, the country being even and sandy but devoid of vegetation of any kind.

We finally came out on the Arctic coast on the night of May 7, and as far as I am able to judge from the map we hit the coast about 15 miles west of the mouth of the Ellis river. The river we travelled on is undoubtedly the Ellis river; it is known to the natives as Coog-nay-ok, but this I did not find out until I got a copy of Hanbury's map at Bernard harbour. Hanbury's map is more reliable than any of the Government maps supplied as he uses the Eskimo names and this in compiling my own map I have endeavoured to do.

This brought us out on Queen Maud's sea, and we continued northwest up the coast and camped on the small islands off point Brown on May 8. On May 9, while deer-hunting, we touched Melbourne island and there killed some deer and a little later we picked up some recently-made native sled-tracks. These we followed, and they took us down into a deep, narrow bay; we continued to follow this and it finally brought us out in Blue inlet; from there we made our way into Melville sound.

On May 10 we were held up by a blizzard, but on May 11 we again proceeded to the west; but as the blizzard again came on we were forced to camp at 2 p.m. This storm continued till the night of May 12, during which time we had to remain in our igloo. May 13 broke fine and clear; in fact it was our first experience of a really warm day since starting out.

However, we left camp and in the morning we came across some recently-made sled tracks; but there we eventually lost, so we struck northwest to the west end of Kent peninsula and made a detour of several islands, hoping to find some signs of a native camp.

On May 14 we saw several sled tracks going in a southwesterly direction towards Bathurst inlet; these we followed and eventually came upon a large Eskimo encampment situated on an island in the mouth of Bathurst inlet.

These natives were Killin-o-muits, and we were received in a very friendly manner, although we had to go through the formula of showing friendly intentions by extending the arms above the head upon approaching the camp, and our natives were soon engaged in conversation with them.

May 15 was spent in investigating the Radford and Street case, and we traded with these natives for footwear and seal-line, etc., our own being pretty well played out. We also traded and procured a native stone lamp and some blubber, but this method of cooking was so slow that after several attempts to boil a kettle, consisting of an all-night vigil, we eventually abandoned the lamp and found small twigs growing on the islands in the inlet, sufficient to make a small fire.

The weather now appeared to become warmer and finer, as we were going south again, and one could notice the snow disappearing off the land—in fact so much so that I concluded we had no time to lose if we were to get back out of the country before the snow cleared off altogether.

On May 16 we struck south down Bathurst inlet, and on May 17 we came up with a large band of Killin-o-muits who were travelling in our direction. We were greeted as before by these Eskimos; in fact, they were a little too friendly and insisted on travelling with us all day, and they camped alongside at night. On May 18 we were held up by a rain and sleet storm, which cleared in the afternoon but we stayed in camp and traded with these natives and I was fortunate in being able to procure from them some fish for dog-feed, as we were now entirely out, and did not know how soon we would come across deer again.

On May 18 I proceeded south again, leaving camp at 9 p.m. and as we got farther south down the inlet we came into water on the ice from 3 to 5 inches deep, and we saw that nearly all the snow had gone off the land. We made camp at 6.39 a.m. of May 19, and this was our last igloo built during the journey, for it collapsed during the heat of the day and fell in on us while we were all asleep; so we pitched our tent for the first time, which we continued to use although they were wretched conditions under which we camped owing to the wet condition of the land.

We continued on down the inlet, crossing over the centre of Kwog-juk, the island where Messrs. Radford and Street met their deaths; at this place we came across bare land and had great difficulty in getting our sleds over.

We travelled as long as we could and camped when the conditions were favourable, going on two meals of half-raw deermeat during the day, and found it not very agreeable to keep on the go for 14 or 16 hours between meals.

From May 18 the travelling got very bad; the sea-ice became bare and jagged and cut the dogs' feet, so that the majority were lame. I had an outfit of sealskin boots made and put on all the dogs, but the ice was so sharp that they would wear out a pair in one night, as was also the case with our own footwear, and it was fortunate that we were constantly coming in contact with natives and able to trade for footgear and to get repairs made.

We arrived at the foot of Bathurst inlet in the morning of May 21, and here we found that the ice was covered with water 15 inches deep which was coming down from the Weston river, which runs into the inlet at this point.

On the night of May 22nd we proceeded up the Weston river for about 25 miles, travelling along the snow on the sides, and having to cross frequently at the bends; these were over knee deep in fast-running water, which was entering our sled loads. We made camp and examined the land to the south; we found it to be practically devoid of snow and absolutely impossible to travel across with dogs and sleds.

I considered the Weston river too dangerous to continue along any further, so eventually we decided to return to the south end of Bathurst inlet and wait there for open water and endeavour to get out by canoe; in that event I would be obliged to abandon the dog sleds and part of the outfit.

We reached the foot of the Inlet on May 24 and met a band of natives who had followed our trail down the Inlet. These natives had come from the west, and from

them we learnt that there were 3 ships along the Arctic coast to the west, which they said were about nine days' travel.

As we were entirely out of supplies and living on a straight meat diet which was not agreeing with either Sergt.-Major Caulkin or myself, and also finding our .303 ammunition to be insufficient to return with, I decided to make west to these ships and try to obtain supplies and ammunition sufficient to last me through the summer, then to return again to the foot of Bathurst inlet and then wait till freeze-up next fall and return overland to Baker lake.

From amongst the band of natives I hired one of them to travel with us as far as the ships, and going north again up the west side of Bathurst inlet towards Coronation gulf, crossed the mouth of Arctic sound and rounded the inlet on to the Arctic coast, continuing west.

The dogs were beginning to show signs of lameness again, and we changed to day travel, as going at night was harder on their feet than during the day, when the sun thawed out most of the pointed ice. We met many bands of natives of different tribes, Killin-o-muits, Killi-shik-to-muits and Wad-le-ar-ing-muits and several others. These were camped at different points along the coast, and some we met on islands in the gulf.

I did not like the looks of some of them and was told that they were born thieves, although as soon as they were told who we were they were very meek and did not attempt to purloin anything from our outfit.

At all these encampments I stayed and gave them a lecture on the murdering of the white men, and regarding pilfering from them and also dwelling on the laws of civilization generally. They appeared to be greatly impressed. They had heard of Inspector LaNauze's patrol in there and the taking out of the murderers of the Roman Catholic missionaries, and this seems to have created a great impression amongst them, the extent of which remains to be seen in the future.

The weather was now getting very warm with continual rain and sleet; the sea-ice was getting rotten in places and large cracks opened up, and much difficulty was experienced in getting the dogs and sleighs over; sometimes we had to go several miles out of our way to get over some of them.

On June 2 it commenced to snow heavily and continued to do so throughout the next day; we were unable to travel until June 4. The snow was about 8 inches deep on top of the ice and the cracks were covered over and impossible to discern. On this date we had to refrain from walking ahead of the dogs, for Sergt.-Major Caulkin and two natives fell down cracks in the ice and were wet through, whilst employed in this way.

We reached Tree river on the night of June 4, meeting a small encampment of Killi-shik-to-muits on an island in the mouth of this river. These natives told us there was a white man living along the river and so we proceeded up about 5 miles and met a Swede by the name of Albin Kihlman, who was employed trapping. This man told us there was a trading vessel three days west from his camp, where he thought that we would be able to get some supplies.

At this point we traded for some barren ground grizzly bear meat from the natives and were made very sick from eating it; although the meat tasted pretty good there was something about it that was not good for the stomach.

On June 5 we continued west from Tree river along the coast, and it rained and snowed alternately all day, but on June 6 it became worse and we had to remain in camp. At this point we met a band of Wad-le-ar-ing-muits, amongst whom was a native named Ul-uk-sak, and this man informed me that he had assisted Inspector LaNauze in making the arrest of the murderers of the Roman Catholic missionaries. This man is, I presume, the same person referred to in Inspector LaNauze's report of June 17, 1916.

On June 7 we continued on west and travelling was very heavy on account of the fresh fall of snow, which seemed to stay on the ice but disappeared very quietly off the land.

On the night of June 8 we arrived at the schooner previously mentioned, which was frozen in near an island east of the mouth of the Coppermine river. She turned out to be the United States gasoline schooner *Teddy Bear*, with Captain J. Bernard in command. Captain Bernard treated us very kindly and gave us what provisions he could. We obtained 5 gallons of distillate oil for our primus lamp, and it seemed quite good to get some civilized cooking again. We were unable to obtain any ammunition for our rifles and Captain Bernard was unable to give us sufficient supplies to carry out my intention of summering at the foot of the inlet, but Captain Bernard informed me that the Hudson's Bay Company had a trading post at Bernard harbour and that I might be able to obtain supplies needed for our party at that point.

As it was out of the question for me to return to the foot of Bathurst inlet without ammunition and sufficient supplies for the patrol, I decided to continue to the Hudson's Bay Company's post at Bernard harbour and endeavour to get out by way of Herschel island, as it was showing signs of nearing the breakup, as the rivers were all booming along the coast, the ice was beginning to heave, and travelling was becoming more dangerous as we continued.

We camped two days at the schooner *Teddy Bear*, which was in latitude 67-46, longitude 115, and on June 11 we continued on our journey, going northwest towards cape Krusenstern. We reached Bernard harbour on June 13 and were met by Mr. Phillips, post manager of the Hudson's Bay Company, who showed us every kindness and assisted us in every way possible.

Mr. Phillips informed me that it would be impossible to proceed farther west by sled as the breakup was liable to occur any time now, and that if I attempted it I would get stranded somewhere along the coast. He further informed me that the Hudson's Bay Company's boat would arrive as soon as the ice cleared and that our best way out was to go out on her to Herschel island. This I decided to do, in fact I had no other alternative unless I disbanded my dogs and outfit, so we pitched camp near the post and Sergt.-Major Caulkin stayed at the camp and I at the post.

Mr. Phillips had very few supplies of any kind, in fact it was fortunate for us that we were able to get what supplies we did from the schooner *Teddy Bear*, as he did not have any ammunition in stock of the .303 calibre.

It is needless to say that this was a hard trip, for I must say that it has been the hardest trip I have ever made, and we suffered much from cold and exposure. These we felt all the more when our supplies ran out and when towards the end of our journey our deerskin clothing got the worse for the wear and the hair started falling out and the winds pierced through the seams and holes.

Most of us were continually frozen about the face and hands, and with regard to snow blindness we were suffering from this more or less during the whole journey, the natives particularly showing a weakness in this direction even when wearing snow glasses, which I must say was due to the inferior quality of our glasses, but which were the best I could procure before we started.

Both myself and Sergt.-Major Caulkin were in very poor shape as regards health; this was undoubtedly due to the straight meat diet which we had been on for the past month or six weeks, eating only quantities of deer, seal and bear meat, to which we were unused, and even this eaten mostly half raw ever since the time of our being out of coal oil for our lamps.

However, after being able to get a few supplies and some oil from the schooner *Teddy Bear* we quickly picked up and felt much better in health generally.

MILEAGE.

Distance travelled over routes	1,835 miles.
“ deer hunting	284 “
“ seal hunting	114 “
“ looking for native camps	250 “
	<hr/>
	2,483 “

DOGS.

We left Baker lake with 25 police dogs which were all good workers and were the pick of 34; the remainder left behind were old dogs, and some in too poor condition to do a long patrol.

Our dogs were, not in any too good shape when leaving, but it was my idea to get where the deer were and go steady for a few days and get them into shape; this we did upon reaching Schultz lake. From this point onwards we were able to feed our dogs every night on either deer, seal or fish, some traded from the natives, but the majority shot or caught by our own party.

In consequence of this our dogs kept in good travelling shape and at no time did they show signs of becoming leg weary until the last stages of our journey. This was unavoidable when taking the heat of the sun, long hours of travelling and the sharp ice passed over into consideration, although even with these to our disadvantage our dogs all stayed in harness to the finish, and we did not have one casualty. This I think is remarkable when one considers the length and conditions of the patrol generally.

I traded a snow knife for one big dog from the Killin-e-muits which turned out to be good, and have another dog in the band, the property of native guide Am-ing-at, who came with us from Backe's river, and had to remain owing to our not being able to get back.

In all we have 27 dogs and I consider they are as good an outfit as could be got together for the work they have had to do in their haul across a rough country and over hundreds of miles of rough ice.

GAME.

Deer or barren ground caribou were the chief species of game met during our patrol. We first came into contact with these at Schultz lake during the early part of the journey and continually every day from this point until we struck the Arctic coast we managed to shoot sufficient for dog feed and ourselves. We would see many bands during one day, but having enough on hand we would not hunt them. The deer in places were very curious and often ran up to within one hundred yards of our sled to look at us.

Sometimes it happened that we might go all day and see no deer and we would begin to think they were getting scarce, but around camping time a band would show up and we would be able to procure the night's dog-feed and the fresh meat for the meal. Many times we saw bands too numerous to commence counting them, but from time to time they got scarcer. No doubt the conditions of the country were responsible for this, for in places there was very little snow, then a long barren rocky area or large lake upon which one could not help expecting to catch deer when crossing to better grazing places.

Wolves seemed very numerous from time to time on the trip and several times our camp was attacked by them and a general melee would ensue among the dogs. On March 24, when nearing Schultz lake, a pack of wolves came around our igloo and it was not before we had killed two of them that they went away.

A similar occurrence took place on Backe's river. These wolves were much larger than those previously seen and we shot one out of this band. At periods these wolves would follow us for days, evidently being hungry, and looking forward to the time when we left camp when they would come up and clean up anything left behind. They were our constant companions across the Barrens to Bathurst inlet, where we appeared to lose them.

Coming on to the Arctic coast our thoughts went to seal hunting now, instead of deer, but it was not until the latter part of the journey that we required these, although we were always more or less successful in securing one or more during the day after we left the deer behind and thus were able to continue feeding daily.

Our total kill of deer during the journey from Schultz lake, where we first came into contact with them, was 168, and these were used for dog-feed and our own consumption.

Also in the vicinity of Bathurst inlet and along the Arctic coast to Bernard harbour we had shot nineteen seals up to the time of our arrival here.

NATIVES.

The first natives we came into contact with on leaving the Thelon river were the Shan-ing-i-ong-muits, who claim their area of hunting ground as extending from lake McDougall to near lake Beachey on Backe's river, and south to the Thelon river.

These people are but a small band now, consisting of about 29 persons, and as far as I could ascertain most of them never leave the Backe's River vicinity and have never seen the sea. They said that they had seen white men once before and from what they told me it was D. T. Hanbury's party they alluded to. These natives still hunt with the bow and arrows, although in one camp I saw a rifle which I was told three men had a share in.

From April 24 we met no more natives until May 14, and then these we met were the Killin-e-muits who are located on an island off Kent peninsula; there were 11 tents in this encampment containing 63 souls in all. From this date onwards we were continually amongst them till the time we reached Bernard harbour on June 13. We had many natives travelling with us from time to time, Killin-e-muits and Killi-shik-to-muits from Bathurst Inlet, and Wad-le-ar-ing-muits from the Coppermine, and the Arctic Coast, and the Pu-ib-lo-muits from Wollaston Land. At Bernard harbour we found an encampment of No-ah-ko-min-muits, whose hunting ground extends from Cape Krusenstern and inland from the Arctic coast.

Some of the Killin-e-muits had not seen a white man before, and had very few white men's goods in their possession, but I noticed that two had two old muzzle-loading rifles which they said that they had obtained from traders (native) coming from the west and also some long butcher knives made into snow knives for building their igloos. Most of their arrow heads were made of bone or native copper which they obtain in Bathurst inlet. Those natives appeared very clean, seemed industrious, and well clothed, and the men were tall and of fine physique.

When going up Bathurst inlet towards Coronation gulf we met some Killi-shik-to-muits, and the men were big fellows, well dressed, and were armed with rifles of modern type, one a 40-40, another a 30-30, and one had an automatic which he had got from Capt. Bernard's trading schooner. The natives we met from here on along the Arctic coast were well possessed of white men's goods, having come in contact with the Canadian Arctic Expedition during 1915-1916; also they had traded at Capt. Bernard's schooner, and nearly all of them had rifles; these were all calibres and conditions, both new and old.

Some natives I met I did not like the looks of, and these were the Wad-le-ar-ing-muits of the Coppermine river; they were altogether too familiar, and I do not think they would hesitate to try to take advantage of a lone white man travelling amongst them. It was from this particular tribe that the murderers of the two Roman Catholic missionaries hail. I gave them a long lecture respecting our laws.

All Eskimos we met seemed well supplied with meat, either seal, fish or deer meat, and were all looking as if they had had a successful winter as far as hunting was concerned.

Different from the natives of the Hudson's Bay district, I notice that these people all look ahead and make caches of blubber, etc., during spring and summer for the coming winter when the days are so short, while with the Hudson's Bay Eskimos the morrow provides for itself and they generally find themselves going hungry.

One thing I noticed in particular about these Arctic Eskimos is the absence of infants, particularly of the female sex, and from different sources I found out that it

is correct that they do away with the majority of female born babes. I lectured them severely on this matter, endeavouring to show them how eventually their tribes would become extinct. On this matter I have dwelt more fully in a separate report and I think that steps should be taken to stop this practice as the result is that polyandry is now resorted to amongst them, and I noticed a huge number of marriageable huskies who were without wives.

This leads to dissatisfaction also, and creates jealousy and I am informed that during the past winter a woman was stabbed to death by her husband in this very vicinity owing to some trouble arising in another quarter. This matter also I have gone more fully into in a separate report.

As is the case with the Eskimos of the Hudson's bay, I find that there are also natives here who are inclined to be light-fingered and will pilfer from the white man and even amongst themselves when the chance occurs.

I am informed that the members of the Canadian Arctic Expedition had some experiences in this direction. Natives appeared to be on the alert for chances to steal despite the generous treatment that I believe was accorded them. I feel convinced that a few examples made of the culprits found would quickly eradicate this practice, if handled in the right way.

In giving an estimation of the total number of Eskimos, men, women, and children with whom we came into contact during this patrol, including those we met from Victoria Land. I would say approximately 450 souls.

This does not mean that we saw all the Eskimos of Coronation Gulf, as upon inquiries at the various camps I was informed that there are some camps now moved inland, deer hunting and fishing on the many lakes. I am informed by Mr. Phillips of the Hudson Bay Company's post that there was a camp comprising 127 igloos and about 500 souls, during the past winter on the ice off Cape Krusenstern; it broke up towards spring, the natives dispersing in the directions where they would make their summer camps. These natives were mixed tribes and gathered from all points along Coronation Gulf to partake in the seal hunting, which is said to be good at this point.

In travelling amongst and with those Eskimos we never experienced any trouble with them. They are always eager to trade with the white men and display a desire to inspect all of one's outfit, which might be misunderstood by some white men travelling amongst them and liable to lead to some trouble unless they are able to talk to them and tell them they are doing wrong when endeavouring to peep into boxes and bags contained in one's outfit.

This country has not been visited much by white men in the past, other than a few explorers, prospectors and scientists from time to time, but it is my belief that there will be numerous parties visiting there as it offers a fair field for prospectors, traders and trappers, and in the event of this being so it would require a number of police to maintain law and order between the two factions and it would be necessary for them to be stationed at different points along the coast.

WHITE SETTLERS.

We met no white settlers during our journey until reaching Tree river on the Arctic Coast on June 4, when we met one, Albin Kihlman, a Norwegian engaged in fishing and trapping.

This man was at one time under Capt. Bernard on the schooner *Teddy Bear* as mate, but was now working for himself, and he was in possession of a whaleboat in which he stated he intended to sail to Bernard Harbour as soon as the break-up occurred and go out on the first available vessel arriving at that point this summer.

The next white persons we met were Capt. Bernard and one of his crew on the schooner *Teddy Bear*, frozen in the ice east of the mouth of the Coppermine River. Capt. Bernard had arrived in from Nome, Alaska in the previous summer (1916) and was engaged in trading with the natives for furs and curios.

He informed us that this occupation had not turned out as well as he had expected and that he intended to proceed further east this summer and eventually go out to civilization by way of the Hudson's Bay. He stated that he was amply provided for in the way of provisions to undertake this.

Leaving the *Teddy Bear* we proceeded around Cape Krusenstern, where we met a Mr. J. Anderson who was living in a small sod house on the west side of the cape. This man was an American citizen and was a member of Capt. Bernard's vessel and was also engaged in trading and trapping, which he informed me had not been a successful venture during the past winter. He intended to return to the schooner *Teddy Bear* and proceed east with Capt. Bernard this summer.

From here we proceeded to Bernard Harbour, where we met Mr. Phillips, post manager of the Hudson Bay Company, who had arrived in the previous summer and opened up a trading post under the supervision of Herschel Island. Mr. Phillips was a married man and his wife was residing with him at the post. Also at this point were two lay preachers of the Church of England who intended opening up a mission for teaching amongst the Eskimos of Coronation Gulf under the direction of the Rev. Mr. Girling, who had gone by sled to Herschel Island during the past spring to confer with the Archdeacon in connection with their work.

No mission house had yet been built, Mr. Hoare and Mr. Merritt occupying the sod house left by the Canadian Arctic Expedition, in which they held meetings with the natives. Also they conducted a service each Sunday at the Hudson Bay Company's post, which we attended during our stay at Bernard Harbour.

TOPOGRAPHICAL

With reference to the country we passed through on this patrol the land is as follows—

From Baker lake to Schultz lake the land is rough and broken with rock outcropping in many places, and some of these outcrops rise to a height of from 200 to 700 feet. The lower lands in the hollows and ravines are generally covered with moss, and in some places a rank growth of grass was seen.

From Schultz lake to Aberdeen lake the country is very uneven and rough and broken, in some places very high and in others very low, and in general formation it is practically the same as the preceding stretch of country, i.e., the country around Baker lake.

From Aberdeen lake to Lake Garry the land is fairly high, consists of sand and gravel ridges and is studded with many small lakes. The land is generally very undulating, with deep ravines running in every direction. The sand and gravel ridges were devoid of snow and impossible for us to cross with our sleds, so we were forced to follow the ravines.

The height of land which we had to cross is covered with large broken boulders, and we were forced to make a long detour to the east and then come back to the west.

Near the height of land there is a large lake laying east and west; it is about 35 miles long and about 8 miles wide, and it is surrounded by very high sand-stone hills.

On the north side of the height of land there is another fairly large lake which we crossed; it is bounded on the northwest side by a high range of sandstone hills. Between this lake and Lake Garry the land is flat in most places and covered with boulders, which make it very hard to travel through.

There are several large boulder hills in this vicinity which in clear weather are very fine observation places, as they are about 300 feet high.

The shores of Lake Garry are generally very low and flat except in one or two places where there are gravel hills from 200 to 300 feet high.

This lake is studded with many small islands of rock and some of boulders.

The shores of Lake Pelly are very low and flat and it is also studded with islands of rock and boulders, and the southwest end of this lake is all sand and sandstone.

Backe's river for 30 miles up from Lake Pelly runs through sand hills; the mouth of this river where it enters lake Pelly is very narrow and is only about 300 feet across, but it widens out from 300 to 500 yards with many bays further up.

From Backe's river to the Arctic coast the country is rolling and consists generally of gravel and sand ridges and there were three large lakes observed through the glasses, two of which we crossed, but from information received from our guide I would think it to be about 40 miles long and 30 miles across. I named this Lake Cuthbert after our late assistant commissioner.

The next lake we struck is about 90 miles long and 25 miles wide and has a large river running from it to the Arctic coast to the east of Kent Peninsula. This lake has low flat shores with a high range of hills to the northeast of it. I named this Lake Perry after the commissioner of the force.

About 10 miles northwest of Lake Perry we struck the south end of a very large lake which appeared to run from the northeast to southwest. From information obtained from the natives this lake is anywhere from 100 to 150 miles long and 40 miles wide. This lake also has a river running from it to the Arctic coast. I have named it Lake Borden after our premier.

From Lake Borden we struck west and struck the river referred to by our native guide, which is known by the natives as Coog-nay-ak. This river runs through sandstone and granite and has an average width of 200 yards. In several places it runs through rocky chasms with perpendicular walls from 100 to 200 feet high and in places is not more than 50 feet wide. As we got nearer to the sea coast this river widened out and appeared to have many shoals. About 40 miles from the Arctic coast the river divides; one branch goes nearly due east and the other branch goes north to Melville sound.

The approximate location of these lakes above mentioned is shown on the map accompanying this report. The country to the east of the river Coog-nay-ak is high and has ridges of sand and gravel, whereas the land to the north-west is formed of high terraces of broken granite which keep getting higher towards Bathurst inlet and Melville sound. It is quite impossible to get into Bathurst inlet from the east as this range of mountains is bare of snow and impassable for sleds.

The south shore of Melville sound is very high and rugged and barren, and the sound itself is strewn with islands. The south end of Bathurst inlet is altogether different from the maps in our possession, the shore line being a great deal more indented with bays and small inlets than what these maps show.

The coast here is very high and rugged and in most places is composed of granite and is absolutely barren. In the mouth of Bathurst inlet and in the inlet itself there are a great many more islands than are charted; these islands are mostly very high and nearly all have perpendicular cliffs, from 200 to 500 feet high.

On most of the islands visited native copper was seen, and this seems to be distributed over a large area, from Melville sound to just south of Gordon bay.

Some of these islands show a fine illustration of the secondary resting upon the primitive rock, for the lines of stratification appear as evenly drawn as in a work of art.

The west side of Bathurst inlet is high and rugged in places and at other points the shore gradually slopes to a height of from 400 to 800 feet.

Cape Barrow is very high, being about 1,000 to 1,500 feet high. The coast line from Cape Barrow to the Coppermine river is fairly high and very broken in places, and gradually gets lower as one proceeds west.

On the east side of Epworth point there is a large beacon, about 16 feet high and built of flat rocks with an arm pointing north and south. From the general appearance of this beacon and by the growth of moss on the rocks I would judge it had been built by some of Franklin's men in 1821, as it is very old.

NATIVES IN POLICE EMPLOY.

The natives that accompanied me on this patrol from Baker lake to the Arctic coast were all natives from the Hudson's Bay, as I was unable to get any of the inland natives around the district of Baker lake to accompany me. I do not think I could have made a better choice of three men, as they were all willing workers and were always willing to travel when instructed which way to go, for once these men got inland they were lost, but not once did they suggest turning back.

The native woman was also of great assistance to us on the travel, mending our clothes at night and keeping them generally in repair. She was also of great assistance to us when we came in contact with the Killin-e-muits who were responsible for the murders of Messrs. Radford and Street, as she herself belongs to this tribe.

The native An-ing-at whom I hired as guide from Backe's river was of great assistance to us, both as guide, and when we came in contact with the Arctic Coast Eskimos, as he was known by most of them, and he and the native woman backed up anything I told these natives.

Before closing this report I wish to respectfully bring to your notice, Sir, the assistance given to me by Reg. No. 4557, Sergt.-Major Caulkin, both in the organizing of this patrol before leaving Baker lake, and afterwards on the trail. I always found him willing to do his duty under the most trying circumstances and to assist in every possible way to make the patrol a success.

His knowledge of the Eskimo language was also of great service to me and I have found him since he has been under my command to be a most competent N.C.O.

Trusting, Sir, that my action on this patrol will meet with your approval.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. H. FRENCH, Inspector,

O. C. Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

The Officer Commanding

R.N.W.M. Police.

Prince Albert, Sask.

Forwarded.

W. J. BEYTS, Inspector,

Commanding Hudson's Bay Subdistrict.

Port Nelson, Man., 20-3-18.

The Commissioner: Forwarded for his information.

W. H. ROUTLEDGE, Supt.,

Commanding "F" Division,

Prince Albert, 20-5-18.

SECOND REPORT—INVESTIGATION OF THE MURDERS.

"M" DIVISION, R.N.W.M. POLICE,

BAKER LAKE DETACHMENT,

BERNARD HARBOUR, June 20, 1917.

CRIME REPORT.

*Re Murder of Messrs. H. V. Radford and Geo. R. Street by Killin-e-muit.
Eskimo, of Bathurst Inlet.*

Relative to the above case and the investigation of same. I left Baker Lake Detachment in the morning of March 21, 1917, accompanied by Reg. No. 4557, Sergt.-Major Caulkin, T.B., and four Eskimos of the Aivillik tribe.

After a journey of nearly two months' duration across the Barren Lands we reached the Arctic coast on May 7, 1917, but it was exactly seven days before we located the first Killin-e-muit igloos, at the mouth of Bathurst inlet, on an island off cape Croker. It was very difficult to locate camps as the weather was very misty and continually blowing, always covering over any recently made native tracks that we came upon from time to time, and having no guide made matters more difficult.

It was noon on May 14 when we saw the first encampment (Oo-shing-mu-ya), which consisted of thirty-six natives. Only the women were in the camp, as the men were about a mile away at the seal holes hunting. When the women sighted us they ran into their tents and igloos, but seeing us raise our hands above our heads they came out and our natives approached them and commenced talking.

The men all ran from the seal holes and gathered around an elderly native (apparently a headman) and then advanced towards us at a double in extended order, each carrying a seal spear or snow knife at the trail, but seeing that our attitude was friendly everything was all right and our natives understood them pretty well when talking.

Practically at all the encampments visited this formula had to be gone through; a native from both sides would advance with hands extended above the head showing that the meeting was friendly.

While we were standing talking with these natives, the majority of whom had never seen a white man before, another band of Killin-e-muits arrived with five sleds from the west side of Bathurst inlet and there were twenty-seven in this party.

All the natives greeted us in a friendly manner, and when we camped alongside of them they were all eager to help in building our igloos and fixing our camps. When they heard that we were out of coal oil they sent us bladders of seal oil for the small native lamp we had in our possession, and they always appeared anxious to furnish any information we required, but this was before they knew who we were or what our business in that vicinity was. We spent a whole month travelling with and amongst these people, meeting bands of Killin-e-muits and Killi-shik-to-muits from the west side of Bathurst inlet, and Wad-le-ar-ing-muits, who range between Bathurst and Coppermine river.

From May 14, 1917, until our arrival at Bernard harbour on June 13 we were constantly meeting fresh bands of natives and carrying out our investigation of the murder of Messrs. Radford and Street. We took many statements from natives, some of whom were present when the white men were killed, while practically all the natives had heard of the affair. When questioned their stories were all the same and corroborated the information previously received from different sources; to insert all these statements would make this report of a very lengthy character.

The most important being those who were present in the camp and eyewitnesses of the affair when the unfortunate Messrs. Radford and Street met their fate, I have incorporated in this report the statements made by these.

In the first encampment I took statements from three men and one woman who were present at the affair; the first being a native named An-ing-nerk, who was a headman and had under his control a band of thirty-five people at the time of our meeting. When questioned he gave us his statement, which is herewith attached as interpreted by Police Native Joe.

Police Native Joe is not what I would call a first-class interpreter, but taking him all round he did very well.

Oo-SHING-MU-YA CAMP, May 14, 1917.

Statement of An-ing-nerk, Bathurst Inlet Native.

About five winters ago two white men came from the south and they had three huskies with them, and they came to an island on the salt called Kwog-juk. One was named Ish-yu-mat-ok and the other Ki-uk. The one white man called Ish-yu-mat-ok

was bad, but the other white man named Ki-uk was good. The three huskies who came with the white men went away again to the south and the white men could not speak to us and we did not understand them but they made us understand a little by making signs.

They wanted two men to go away with them to the west, two men, Har-lá and Kan-e-ak, were going with them but Kan-e-ak's wife was sick; she had fallen on the ice and was hurt, and Kan-e-ak did not want to leave her then. The white man called Ish-yu-mat-ok got very mad and ran at Kah-e-ak and hit him with a whip; the other white man (Ki-uk) tried to stop him. The white man was shouting all the time. He dragged Kan-e-ak to the water edge, the other white man went with him, they were going to throw Kan-e-ak in the water. Everybody was frightened the two white men were going to kill Kan-e-ak; two men, Ok-it-ok and Hul-a-lark, ran out and stabbed Ish-yu-mat-ok; he fell on the ice; the other white man ran off shouting towards the sleigh and Ok-it-ok ran after him and caught him and Am-e-geal-nik stabbed him with a snow knife; he was running towards the sleigh; he tried to get a rifle. The two white men were covered over and left on the ice. I do not know what became of their property; some the huskies took and some I think was left on the island; their rifles were broken up and made into tools after the cartridges were used up. One husky named Nar-muk-tin-u-ar has the white men's field glasses. He is away on the other side of the salt water (Victoria Land).

I do not think that this would have happened if the white men had not beat Kan-e-ak with the dog whip, or if we had understood the white men. Gib-gol-u-yok had some paper of the white men; he is in camp now. Kan-e-ak and Hul-a-lark are away on the salt ice land (probably Victoria Land or east of Kent peninsula). Am-e-geal-nik I think is away to the west near the big river (probably the Coppermine). I think these men will be here when the ice breaks up if the white men want them.

We do not want trouble with the white men, we want them to come here and trade with us. I cannot remember all as it is a long time ago now; there were only a few men in the camp, the others were away hunting when the fight started. We went and told the huskies who came from the south with the white men what had happened to the white men.

his
(Signed) AN-ING x NERK.
mark.

Witness:

F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector.*

I certify that the above is a true interpretation of what I have heard and interpreted to you from the above-named witness.

(Signed) 
Police Native Joe, Interpreter.

In the same encampment I took statements from natives, Tet-ib-yok, Ow-nak, Ut-oo-gow, Sherk, Keg-lu-i-ar, and Nu-e-lu-ug-ar, but none of these natives were present when the murders took place; they stated that they had been told about it, and their statements were similar to those already obtained and were always given freely. Much difficulty was experienced in getting details, as it is a long time ago to these natives since the murders took place, and our interpreter said it was difficult for him to put the questions as we required. To insert all those statements would make the report too voluminous, so these will be omitted and they are precisely the same as each other and also the same as those already obtained.

I took a statement from An-ing-nerk's wife Nu-at-te, which is herewith attached

Statement of Nu-at-te, Bathurst Inlet Eskimo.

I am the wife of An-ing-nerk and belong to the Killin-e-muits. I remember the two white men being killed at Kwog-juk, and I was there when the fight took place and saw it from inside our tent. The two white men were called Ish-u-mat-ok (Radford), and Ki-uk (Street). They came to Kwog-juk with three huskies from the south and I think about five winters ago.

The white man Ish-yu-mat-ok was bad and always seemed mad, but the other white man was good. We could not understand them, only by making signs. I remember the white man Ish-yu-mat-ok had sore feet when he came to Kwog-juk as his boots were worn out and he seemed to walk as if his feet were sore. I did some sewing for the white men while they were there. They stayed at Kwog-juk some time but I cannot say how long. The three huskies who came with them left to go south shortly after they came.

The white men wanted two men to go with them to the west, they wanted good hunters. Kan-e-ak and Har-la were going with the white men. It was some time after that the white men were going away, I saw them getting ready to go. I stood outside our tent; our tent was close to the ice. I remember seeing Har-la start off with one sled, but Kan-e-ak did not want to go, as his wife was sick and he did not want to leave her; she had fallen on the ice and hurt herself.

I saw the white man Ish-yu-mat-ok (Radford) catch hold of Kan-e-ak, he was talking loudly and he had a dog whip in his hand and hit Kan-e-ak on the head and face with it many times. Kan-e-ak sat down on the ice and the white man still beat him with the whip and the other white man went up and tried to stop Ish-yu-mat-ok. The white man, Ish-yu-mat-ok, then started to drag Kan-e-ak towards a large crack in the ice, he was calling to the other white man Ki-uk (Street). The Ish-yu-mat-ok was holding Kan-e-ak over the hole, the other man Ki-uk went up and caught hold of Kan-e-ak and also helped. We were afraid that they were going to kill Kan-e-ak. There were not many men in the camp, I think about six, as the other huskies were away at the seal holes hunting. I remember seeing a man, Ok-it-ok, run out and catch hold of Ish-yu-mat-ok and I saw Hul-a-lark stab him in the back with a knife, and the white man fell on the ice. I do not remember seeing any more. I was very frightened, and I went into the tent and cried.

I did not see what happened to the other white man, Ki-uk (Street). I only know what I was told, that he was stabbed by Am-e-geal-nik. I did not see the white men again. I saw where they were lying, covered over with deerskins on the ice, and this was when we were leaving Kwog-juk, the next day. We went to the south and we have not been to Kwog-juk since. I do not know what became of the white men's stuff. I heard the natives took some and some was left at Kwog-juk. I think Gib-gol-u-ok had some paper belonging to the white men.

I do not know where the men who killed the white men went to, but I heard that Hul-a-lark and Kan-e-ak had gone up to the big water to the north.

(Signed) NU-AT ^{her} x TE.
mark

Witness: F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector.*

I certify that the above is a true interpretation of what I have heard and interpreted to you from the above-named witness.

(Signed)  *Police Native Joe, Interpreter.*

The witness, Nu-at-te, was an elderly person and seemed to remember the occurrence well, only occasionally needing assistance when endeavouring to obtain the most

important details. This woman evidently did some repairs for Messrs. Radford and Street while staying on Kwog-juk island.

The native Gib-gol-u-ok was said to have some paper belonging to Messrs. Radford and Street, and the following statement was taken from this man.

Statement of Gib-gol-u-ok, Eskimo, Bathurst Inlet.

I remember the two white men, Ish-yu-mat-ok and Ki-uk, coming to Kwog-juk, as I was camped there. There were not many camped there when the white men came. After the white men came many Eskimos came there as it is a good place for seals in spring.

I do not know how long the white men came. It was a long time and the three huskies that came with them returned to the south. The one white man, Ish-yu-mat-ok (Radford), was always mad and shouting loudly at the natives and the other white man, Ki-uk (Street), was good. We did not understand the white men's language, but sometimes they made signs and we understand.

They wanted two men who were good hunters to go away with them to the west and Har-la and Kan-e-ak were to go. When the white men were ready to leave, Kan-e-ak did not want to go as his wife had fallen on the ice and hurt herself and he did not wish to leave her. Har-la had left the camp with one team. I remember seeing the white man, Ish-yu-mat-ok pick up a dog whip and catch hold of Kan-e-ak and commence hitting him over the head and face, the white man shouting all the time. Kan-e-ak sat down on the ice, and the other white man, Ki-uk (Street), went up and tried to stop the Ish-yu-mat-ok.

I saw the Ish-yu-mat-ok catch hold of Kan-e-ak and drag him to a wide crack in the ice and hold him over it. We were afraid the white man was going to kill Kan-e-ak. The other white man, Ki-uk, caught hold of Kan-e-ak and they both commenced to push him down towards the water. I was on the side of the hill behind the tents and saw Ok-it-ok and Hul-a-lark run out from the camp. Ok-it-ok caught hold of Ish-yu-mat-ok and Hul-a-lark stabbed him with a snow knife. He stabbed him in the back. The white man fell on the ice. The other white man ran away toward the sled that Har-la had left with, Ok-it-ok ran after him and caught hold of him and Am-e-geal-nik stabbed him.

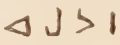
The white men were put on the ice and covered over with their deerskins. I did not see anybody cut either of the white men's throats. The huskies took some of the white men's stuff and some was left behind. I have some paper that belonged to the white man. I do not know of any more of their stuff, the rifles were broken up and used by the natives. I heard that Hul-a-lark and Kan-o-ak were away hunting on the sea ice to the east and I do not know where Am-e-geal-nik is.

We did not want to have any trouble with the white men and if the white men could have spoken our language, I do not think it would have happened as we want to have the white man come and trade with us.

his
(Signed) GIB-GOL- X U-OK
mark

Witness: (Sgd.) F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector.*

I certify that the above is a true interpretation of what I have heard and interpreted to you from the above-named witness.

(Signed) 

Police Native Joe, Interpreter.

This native, Gib-gol-u-ok, was a young man and could not have been more than seventeen or eighteen years of age when the murders were committed. The paper

mentioned in his statement, I obtained from him; this happened to be a book belonging to Mr. Radford, containing scientific notes on birds and animals encountered during their journey to the Arctic coast. He stated he obtained this book from a native named Ming-el-oo-yak, but did not know where this native was now.

I endeavoured to obtain any parts of the murdered men's property and diaries, but this book was the only article I was successful in obtaining. I did not see any goods amongst them that might have belonged to Messrs. Radford and Street. I was told that some writings had been taken up by members of the Canadian Arctic expedition who had been in the vicinity of Bathurst inlet during the winter of 1915-16.

I believe that the members of this expedition tried to obtain any articles they could that were these men's property.

It was useless to try to obtain the numbers of days or hours long back, as the Eskimo mind does not grasp these things.

I could not find out how long Messrs. Radford and Street remained on the island of Kwog-juk from the time of their arrival till the time they met their deaths. I would judge it must have been some time in the neighbourhood of a fortnight at least. Most of these natives being unable to count more than five or six on their hands, after much trouble these details had to be passed over, as it seemed impossible for these people to remember details, and of time they seem to be unable to keep any record. The majority of these natives as far as I have come in contact with them have no means of keeping any such record. As far as I was able to learn they keep record of time only by the seasons, which with them are spring, fall, winter and summer; yet even over these they seem to get mixed up. The rest as far as these natives are concerned as regards time has to be guessed at.

At our next encampment I took statements from the following natives, El-et-chak, Al-ik, Ting-me-ar.

Statement of El-at-chak (Headman), Bathurst Inlet Eskimo.

I remember two white men, Captain and Ki-uk, who came to Kwog-juk island, it was a long time ago and I think about three winters ago. I was on my way down to the land south of Kwog-juk to hunt. I do not know how long the white men stayed at Kwog-juk, but they were alive when I left Kwog-juk to go to the south. I had left the island one day when the fight happened and I heard all about it afterwards. If I had been at the island at the time the white men would not have been killed as I am the Chief and would have stopped the men and all my young men obey me. The Captain (Radford) was always mad and was always fighting and scaring the huskies. The white men did not understand the language and we did not understand them. Ki-uk (Street) was a good man.

The white men wanted two huskies to go with them to the west and the two men named Har-la and Kan-e-ak were going as they were good hunters. Before starting off, Kan-e-ak's wife got sick, she fell on the ice and hurt herself, and Kan-e-ak told the white men he did not want to go with them and leave his wife. The white man, Captain (Radford), got mad and started shouting loudly and commenced beating Kan-e-ak with a dog whip. Kan-e-ak lay on the ice and the other white man tried to stop the Captain from beating Kan-e-ak. The huskies all thought that the white man was going to kill Kan-e-ak.

Two huskies ran out to the white man who was beating Kan-e-ak, Ok-it-ok was one and Hul-a-lark was the other. Ok-it-ok caught hold of the white Captain and Hul-a-lark stabbed him with a snow knife and he fell to the ground dead.

The other white man started to run to the sled and a husky named Am-e-geal-nik ran after him and stabbed him as he thought he was going to get a rifle. The white men were laid on the shore and covered with deerskins. I do not know what became of the white men's property and what I have told you is only what I have heard from

other huskies. There were not many huskies in the camp when the fight happened, as some were on the land hunting, some were away at the seal holes, and some were after fish.

his
(Signed) EL-ET x CHAK.
mark.

Witnessed: F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector.*

I certify that the above is a true interpretation of what I have heard and interpreted to you from the above-named witness.

(Signed) 
Police Native Joe, Interpreter.

This native El-et-chak is an elderly Eskimo, appeared keen and intellectual and seemed to be held in respect by the native element in this encampment. He holds the position of Medicine Man or Conjuror amongst his tribe, an exhibition of which he gave us, as he informed us that he had seen a bad spirit following our sleds as we were coming up to the camp. He stated that if he had been present when Radford had been beating Kan-e-ak he would have tried to have stopped him and no violence would have been used, but the perpetrators of the deed were scared and thought that the white men meant to kill Kan-e-ak and probably some of the others as well. We camped alongside with these natives for a day and a half and were treated in a very friendly manner and were assisted along in every way possible. We traded for seal-skin boots, etc., and experienced no trouble in this matter, and we paid them at a smaller rate than is recognized in the south, and they seemed satisfied with their payments.

The next statement taken was that of native Al-ik and is herewith attached.

Statement of Native Al-ik, Bathurst Inlet Eskimo.

I remember the two white men who were killed at Kwog-juk as I was there when the fight took place. The white men came to the island about five winters ago and they had three huskies with them. I forget the white men's names. They stayed at Kwog-juk some time, I cannot say how long.

I remember the two white men wanted two huskies to go to the west with them; they wanted two good hunters, and Har-la and Kan-e-ak were going with them. They were all ready to go and Har-la had started off with one sled around a point of the island. Kan-e-ak did not want to go as his wife had fallen on the ice and hurt herself. The white man Ish-yu-mat-ek (Radford) got mad and caught hold of Kan-e-ak and beat him with a dog whip, he struck him lots on the head and Kan-e-ak lay on the ice near the shore and the other white man tried to stop Radford from beating Kan-e-ak but could not. The white man Radford called to the other white man to help him, he would not go at first, but after a while he went and helped the Ish-yu-mat-ok (Radford) to put Kan-e-ak under the water and we were all scared that the white men were going to kill Kan-e-ak.

Ok-it-ok and Hul-a-lark ran out and Ok-it-ok caught hold of Ish-yu-mat-ok and Hul-a-lark stabbed him with a snow knife. He did not die right away.

The other white man ran towards the sled which Har-la had started off with, to get a rifle, and Ok-it-ok ran after him and caught hold of him and Am-e-geal-nik stabbed him with a snow knife and he died right away. The other white man (Radford) still lay on the ground, he was not dead and Hul-a-lark went up and cut his throat as he did not want to see him in pain.

After they were killed they were carried to the shore and covered with deerskins. Next day all the huskies left Kwog-juk island and made another camp further away.

We were all scared and that was why we left the island. We did not want to kill

the white men but we could not understand them and thought they were going to kill us. Hul-a-lark and Am-e-geal-nik and Kan-e-ak are good men and would not have fought if the white men had not started. The huskies took all the white men's goods and divided it, and the rifles were broken up and used as tools. After the two white men were dead we were very much afraid and we went after the huskies who came with the white men, but who had left our camp to go to the south, and told them all about it. This is all I can remember. I do not know where the men Hul-a-lark and Am-e-geal-nik are, I saw them last when the ice began to come (fall of 1916) and they said they might go to the big island across the salt (Victoria Land) Kan-e-ak is in the inlet somewhere, I think, but I have not seen him this winter.

(Signed) his
AL-x IK.
mark

Witnessed: F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector*.

I certify the above is a true interpretation of what I have heard and interpreted to you from the above-named witness.

(Signed) Δ J > I
Police Native Joe, Interpreter.

This native further stated that there were not more than six or eight huskies in the camp when the fight took place and he said he saw the whole occurrence as he was sitting on a rock at the rear of the tents on a hill. He emphatically denied having taken any part in the fight, as asserted in statement given by native Akulak who accompanied Radford to Bathurst inlet; it was said by Akulak that this native (Al-ik) had cut Radford's throat and finished him off. This native further remarked that he had heard that the police were coming to look for the white men. By several natives I have been told that they do not use this camping ground since the affair took place but make a camp further along the island to the south and on the other side as they were afraid the white men's spirits would come back there.

I engaged a native (Ar-nak) to take us to Kwog-juk island and show us where the murder took place. This was done but nothing whatever was to be found. It is evident that, if the bodies were placed where this man pointed out, they must have been carried into the waters of the inlet by the first stormy period and carried out to sea. Kwog-juk island is a long narrow strip of land in the southern part of Bathurst inlet to the west of Gordon bay and in places has very precipitous heights. It is a noted sealing-place, as it opens early on the west side in the channel, which is narrow between the island and mainland. Since writing the above *re* visiting Kwog-juk island to look for the remains of Messrs. Radford and Street, I have been informed by Mr. Phillips, post manager of the Hudson's Bay Company at Bernard harbour, that some huskies went to Kwog-juk the next spring and collected the remains of the dead bodies and threw them into the sea. This was said to have been done so that any white man coming to look for the white men's bodies would not find them.

The next statement taken was that of native Ting-me-ar and is herewith attached.

May 17, 1917.

Statement of Ting-me-ar, Killin-e-muit Eskimo.

I remember all about the white men Ish-yu-mat-ok (Radford) and Ki-uk (Street) who were killed at Kwog-juk. It is four or five winters ago but I am not sure. I was in the camp when they came and they stayed with us some time, but I do not know how long. The white men wanted to go to the west and wanted the two best hunters to go with them. The three huskies who came with them went away again. Two men, Har-la and Kan-e-ak, were going with the two white men and I remember that

when they were ready to go, Kan-e-ak did not want to go with the white men as his wife had fallen on the ice and hurt herself. Har-la had left the camp with one team. The white man Ish-yu-mat-ok got very mad at Kan-e-ak and commenced talking loudly but we did not know what he was saying.

I was sitting on a rock outside my tent re-stringing my bow and saw all what happened. I saw the Ish-yu-mat-ok take hold of Kan-e-ak and commence hitting him head down towards the water and he was calling to the other man, Ki-uk, all the white man went up and tried to make the Ish-yu-mat-ok stop but he would not. After a while the Ish-yu-mat-ok caught hold of Kan-e-ak and called Ki-uk (Street). He (Radford) then dragged Kan-e-ak to a wide crack in the ice and commenced pushing him head-down towards the water and he was calling to the other man, Ki-uk, all the time. After a while the white man, Ki-uk, went up and also caught hold of Kan-e-ak and they both held him over the hole. We all became afraid and thought that the white men were going to kill Kan-e-ak. I saw a native, Ok-it-ok, run out and catch hold of Ish-yu-mat-ok and another native named Hul-a-lark stabbed him in the back with a snow knife and he fell on the ground and the other white man started to run after the sleigh that Har-la had started off with but Ok-it-ok ran after him and caught hold of him and another native named Am-e-geal-nik stabbed him and he fell on the ice and died. The other white man Ish-yu-mat-ok did not die right away but lay groaning on the ice and Hul-a-lark went up and cut his throat and finished him off.

They were all very much afraid and did not know what to do as they did not wish to kill the white men. We carried the white men up to the land and covered them with deerskins. I did not take any of the white men's stuff but some took the rifles and some huskies took the other things. There were not many men in the camp at the time as they were all out over the ice hunting.

Some huskies went away to tell the three huskies who came with the white men from the south about it. I left Kwog-juk after this happened and went to the foot of the inlet. This is all I know and I cannot say what became of the white men's bodies as I have not been to Kwog-juk since.


his

(Signed) TING- x ME-AR.

mark

Witnessed: F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector.*

I certify that the above is a true interpretation of what I have heard and interpreted to you from the above-named witness.

(Signed) 

Police Native Joe, Interpreter.

This man seemed an upright, honest native and appeared eager to furnish all details as far as he could recall the affair. It is difficult to obtain direct answers to questions in the Eskimo language as asked by us, but Ting-me-ar gave his statement in a very straightforward manner. He stated that as far as he knew Hul-a-lark and Kan-e-ak were on the coast to the east and did not know where Am-e-geal-nik was.

IG-LU-RE-AR-EL-IK CAMP, May 29, 1917.

Statement of Ar-vok, Bathurst Inlet Eskimo.

I have heard all about the two white men who were killed at the island called Kwog-juk. I was not at Kwog-juk when they were there. I was on a river An-ne-or-shor-vik to the east of Kwog-juk, deer hunting and I was there with other Killin-e-muits, Kan-nat, and Kar-tak, when the two white men came to our camp. They had

three Eskimos from the south and they wanted me to go with them to the island called Kwog-juk but I did not wish to go. I had not seen white men before and was afraid of them and I could not understand them.

The tall man Ish-yu-mat-ok was shouting at me and I was afraid and ran away from him and I do not know what he was calling after me. Kan-nat and Kar-tak went away to Kwog-juk with the two white men and I stayed at the river An-ne-or-shor-vik and I heard that the white men had been killed at Kwog-juk by Hul-a-lark and Am-e-geal-nik because they were fighting Kan-e-ak because he did not want to go with them to the west.

I know the men Hul-a-lark and Am-e-geal-nik and do not think they would trouble the white men if they had not tried to kill Kan-e-ak as they are both good men and hunters. I do not know where these men are now excepting they are up on the big salt water to the north.

his

(Signed) AR-x VOK.

mark.

Witnessed: F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector*.

I certify that the statement made by Ar-vok is a true interpretation of what I have heard and interpreted to you from the above named witness.

(Signed)

Δ J > I

Police Interpreter, Joe.

This statement was obtained from the above named native whom we met in an encampment on Banks Peninsula, Arctic Sound, and my reason for submitting this native's story is to show evidently that Mr. Radford used very little discretion or judgment in handling these natives when trying to obtain their services. He appears at all times to have used rough methods all along his route of travel from Chesterfield Inlet, as I have heard stories of previous occurrences of a similar nature happening which I believe are contained in reports already forwarded from Baker Lake Detachment, one of these reports referring to Mr. Radford as threatening to shoot a native named "Bosun" at Baker Lake because he would not accompany him from that place to Bathurst Inlet, and also chasing a native at Schultz Lake because the native had cheated him out of a fish in a trade deal.

Speaking from my own experience with these people whom I have studied closely whilst living amongst them, I must say it is dangerous to ever attempt such methods as those Mr. Radford employed when endeavouring to make his way amongst them.

Furthermore, no white man or men who cannot speak the language should attempt to mingle with these natives, unless he has an interpreter with him. White men travelling amongst these natives as a rule obtain a smattering of their language and if one should happen to speak a syllable to them they immediately come to the conclusion that one speaks the whole language and commence jabbering away.

These natives are very simple and primitive and full of fear of the white man, and extremely curious, and when they meet a white man travelling amongst them they want to examine everything in his possession to see how it is made, and they want to look into every box and bag and I must say that some of them are not above stealing if a chance occurs. Their curiosity often becomes annoying and this I experienced myself, but it is impolitic to lose one's temper.

The next statement was taken at the same camp from Kan-nat who is mentioned in the above statement.

IG-LU-RE-EL-IK CAMP, May 29, 1917.

Statement of Native Kan-nat, Bathurst Inlet Native.

I remember about the two white men who were killed at Kwog-juk but I was not there when the fight took place; I only heard of it from other huskies.

I saw the two white men, Ish-yu-mat-ok and Ki-uk, when they came to our camp on the An-ne-or-shor-nik (a river on the east side of Bathurst Inlet). It was in the early when they came and they wanted us to go on with them to Kwog-juk. They had three huskies from the south with them. Ar-vok did not want to leave his wife. The white man Ish-yu-mat-ok seemed to get mad and started talking loudly but we did not understand what he was saying. Ar-vok ran away and the white man picked up a snow knife and ran after him shouting and the other white man, Ki-uk, ran up and stopped the Ish-yu-mat-ok. After a time myself and another husky named Kar-tak agreed to go to Kwog-juk with them. We went to Kwog-juk with them and stayed there a day. When we left and came back to our camp on An-ne-or-shor-vik, the two white men were alive.

It was some time later that I heard the two white men had been killed at Kwog-juk by Hul-a-lark and Am-e-geal-nik. I do not know where these men are now, they might be up on the coast by the big salt.

his
(Signed) KAN- x NAT.
mark.

Witnessed: F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector.*

I certify that the above is a true interpretation of what I have heard and interpreted to you from the above named witness.

(Signed) 
Police Native Joe, Interpreter.

This statement was taken from this native, who volunteered this information and corroborates the remarks I made at the foot of the preceding statement. The river alluded to runs into Gordon Bay on the east side.

The following statements were taken at a much later date at the Coppermine river:—

COPPERMINE RIVER, September 13, 1917.

Statement of Kina-rolik.

I am a Killin-e-muit Eskimo, and I remember the two white men who were killed coming to Kwog-juk island. I was in camp on the island when the two white men were there and I saw them many times. The one white man we called Ish-yu-mat-ok (Radford) and the other we called Ki-uk (Street). No one had any trouble with the white men while I was in the camp and I do not think the white men would have been killed if I had been there. I was away from the camp when the fight happened but my wife was there and saw the fight. I only know what I heard from the natives who were in the camp when the white men were killed. I heard that the white men wanted huskies to go travelling with them and Kan-e-ak and Har-la were to go, but Kan-e-ak's wife got sick and he did not want to leave her.

The Ish-yu-mat-ok got mad and hit Kan-e-ak across the face with a whip handle and afterwards tried to put him down a hole in the ice. The white men were killed by Hul-a-lark and Am-e-geal-nik. I know both these men and they are good men and have never had trouble before. They thought the white men were going to kill Kan-e-ak. If I had been there I think I could have prevented the killing of the white men as I am a chief amongst these natives and they would do as I say.

his
(Signed) KINA x ROLIK.
mark

Witnessed: F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector.*

I certify that the above is a true interpretation of what I heard and interpreted to you from the above named witness.

(Signed) 
Police Native Joe, Interpreter.

This man is an elderly native and seems honest and jovial; he was employed by the Canadian Arctic Expedition in 1915-1916 and they speak well of him as a servant.

Statement of Native Woman O-kok.

I am the wife of Kina-rolik and was in camp with my husband when the two white men came to Kwog-juk with three huskies from the south. It was five or six winters ago when they came to the island and they wanted natives to go with them to the west after they had rested up.

Kan-e-ak and Har-la were going with them, and I was in the camp the day they were to go, but there were not many natives in camp as most of them were away hunting. I saw what happened from the tent.

Kan-e-ak's wife had fallen on the ice and hurt herself and Kan-e-ak did not want to leave her and go with the white men. The white man Ish-yu-mat-ok (Radford) seemed to get mad and was shouting at Kan-e-ak. I saw the white man Ish-yu-mat-ok pick up a dog whip and hit Kan-e-ak across the face. Kan-e-ak laid down on the ice and the Ish-yu-mat-ok shouted to the other white man Ki-uk and after a time they dragged Kan-e-ak to a crack in the ice and held him over it. We all were very frightened and thought the white men meant to kill Kan-e-ak. I saw a native named Ok-it-ok- run out and catch hold of Ish-yu-mat-ok and another man named Hul-a-lark stabbed him with a snow knife in the back and he fell on the ground. The other white man started to run to the sleigh, which was a short way out from the camp and driven by Har-la. Ok-it-ok ran after him and caught him and a man named Am-e-geal-nik ran up and stabbed him and he died right away, but the Ish-yu-mat-ok lived some time after he was stabbed.

They were carried up on the shore and their tent and deerskins were placed over them. I do not know what became of their goods but I think they were divided up amongst the men. Nothing would have happened if the white man had not hit Kan-e-ak as we do not wish to have any trouble with the white men.

her
(Signed) O- x KOK.
mark.

Witnessed: F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector.*

I certify that the above is a true interpretation of what I have heard and interpreted to you from the above-named witness.

(Signed) 
Police Native Joe, Interpreter.

This completes the statements which I obtained.

From these statements it will be seen that Mr. Radford appeared to be regarded as a bad man by the natives while they spoke of Mr. Street as a good man; undoubtedly the previous incidents occurring along the route had been told to the Killin-e-muit people by some of the natives accompanying Messrs. Radford and Street to Bathurst inlet. Hiring natives as guides to accompany one on a journey through the North is often likely to be the source of great annoyance, as one of the natives may back out at the last minute and not want to go as was evidently experienced by Messrs. Radford and Street when trying to engage native Kan-e-ak to go West with them. I myself have had a similar experience myself whilst on this patrol. A native I had engaged to go with me from the mouth of the Coppermine to Cape Krusenstern backed out and did not want to go as he had hurt his leg. Through our interpreter I told this native that I did not want him unless he came willingly as I am sure the excuse of the lame leg was a falsehood. However, the matter dropped right there and then. Had Mr. Radford, instead of resorting to chastisement, used discretion when Kan-e-ak said he did not want to go with him and tried to get another native, I believe he could have succeeded in so doing, and that Messrs. Radford and Street would be alive to-day.

Conscientiously speaking, of all the many different tribes with whom I came in contact whilst patrolling the Arctic coast and Bathurst inlet, I place the Killin-e-muits, members of which tribe murdered Messrs. Radford and Street, as the best class of natives I met.

We were continually meeting large bands of them, sometimes numbering anywhere from 15 to 40 adult males, and at no time did they show any desire to take advantage of the fact that we were two lone white men in their midst. As for the other tribes to the west of Bathurst, such as the Killi-shik-to-muits, Wad-le-ar-ing-muits and some of the Victoria Land natives whom we found camped to the west of Cape Krusenstern, I found them of a different calibre, many having come in contact with white men at different periods. They showed an inclination to make themselves obnoxious by turning over our effects and examining them and generally speaking were altogether too familiar and unless handled by a person possessing an ample supply of patience and self possession I will not hesitate in saying that we shall hear more of these natives' doings with the lone white man who may from time to time be making his way amongst them.

I did not like the looks of some of the bands of Wad-le-ar-ing-muits we met; these are the people who are responsible for the murder of the two Roman Catholic missionaries. There appear to be a number of young bucks amongst them who are looking for a way to notoriety. Among all the different bands I met, I held meetings, calling them together and delivered a lecture to them through our interpreter regarding the white man's law concerning murder, stealing, etc., and informing them that we should be in there again in the event of any more white men being molested and that the culprits would be taken away and would never return.

They seemed deeply impressed by what was told them and said that they would see that future white travellers going amongst them would be respected. However, it remains for the future to show what effect our visit amongst them has had.

They had all heard of Inspector La Nauze and his party being in and taking out the murderers of the Roman Catholic priests, and this has made a great impression on them, the benefit of which the future will show. I have to blame Inspector La Nauze's patrol for my inability to get in contact with the actual murderers of Messrs. Radford and Street; these natives have gone over to Victoria Land and have in all probability changed their names, presuming no doubt that they were to be apprehended. Should these men, Hul-a-lark and Am-e-geal-nik, be required it will take rather a long time to effect their arrest, as in the event of their having gone to Victoria Land it would require at least a party outfitted for a year to work out from the mouth of Bathurst inlet.

The reason for this is that the Eskimos know every inch of the country and could avoid arrest for some time.

Since arriving here I have heard that the murderers of Messrs. Radford and Street have left Bathurst inlet and have gone to the northeast of Victoria Land and are supposed to be living on some islands between Victoria Land and King William's Land.

It is very doubtful if these men were arrested and brought to trial if it would be possible to convict them before any judge and jury, as the only evidence we have is the statements of natives, and these all go to show that Radford was the aggressor and that the natives acted in self-defence against brutal treatment, and when they thought that one of their band was going to be killed.

From the evidence we have, Radford wrote to Mr. Ford at Chesterfield inlet from the island where he was murdered and this letter was dated June 3, 1912, and stated that he had been well received by the natives of this camp.

The last date recorded in his diary, which Inspector La Nauze got from Dr. O'Neil, is July 12, 1912, which goes to prove that he lived with these people for over a month, without any harm coming to him, and also the fact that there were very few natives in the camp at the time of the murder goes to prove that it was not premeditated.

From the statements inclosed and from the conversations I had with different natives along the coast, I would judge that they only acted in self-defence and to protect themselves, as the only law they know is self-protection.

I spent more time than I intended among these natives on account of the early thaw in May, and I was unable to get out of the country as all the snow had gone. I had plenty of time to observe and study these natives, and I found them to be honest and always willing to assist us in every way they could. The Killin-e-muits are far superior in every to the natives living to the west of Bathurst inlet, and as far as I could find out there are three tribes living in Coronation gulf. On my patrol I came in contact with all of them and found them to be born thieves and fearful liars and not to be trusted out of one's sight, and I should not be surprised to hear of some of them committing more murders before long, as any one of them would sell his soul to possess a rifle; but at present the whole thing hinges on whatever happens to the murderers of the two Roman Catholic priests. If these two men are turned loose and return to this country, it will not be safe for a lone white man to travel amongst them, as they would take the first opportunity to murder him to get his outfit.

My instructions *re* the murders of Messrs. Radford and Street were to the effect that I was to make no arrests, but investigate the case and get what evidence was possible. This I have done, and I tried my utmost to come in contact with the two murderers as I wished to get their statements, but in this I was unsuccessful. The information that I have obtained from natives in Bathurst inlet is that Kan-e-ak, Hul-a-lark and Am-e-geal-nik are living on some islands between east Victoria and King William's Land; this appears to be their winter hunting ground. Kan-e-ak and Hul-a-lark were seen last summer on the Ellis river; this river is shown on the map inclosed with my reports. They apparently hunted there for the summer and then returned to the Arctic coast; this information I obtained from Ul-uk-sak.

If the arrest of these two murderers is desired it will require a party of police equipped with at least two years' provisions to effect this. They might be arrested in one month, but in all probability it would take considerably longer, and a patrol might have to go as far east as Adelaide peninsula or Frankland isthmus or to northeast King William's Land, as these men will know long before this that the police are after them and they are going to make themselves scarce and keep out of the way.

As they know every inch of the country, unless they are surprised, I am afraid it would be a long, hard chase before they are captured.

The Commissioner.

F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector,*
O.C. Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

PRINCE ALBERT, 20-5-18.

The Officer Commanding, R.N.W.M. Police, Prince Albert, Sask.

Forwarded.

W. H. ROUTLEDGE, *Superintendent,*
Commanding "F" Division.

Forwarded for his information.

W. J. BEYTS, *Inspector,*
Commanding Hudson's Bay Sub-district.

PORT NELSON, Man., 20-3-18.

THIRD REPORT—INFANTICIDE.

"M" DIVISION, R.N.W.M. POLICE,
BAKER LAKE DETACHMENT,
BERNARD HARBOUR, N.W.T., July 5, 1917.

Crime Report re Killing of female-born children amongst Coronation Gulf Eskimos.

Relative to the above, of which I had heard prior to starting north on the Bathurst Inlet Patrol; I investigated it during my stay amongst these people, and find that this practice is still in existence amongst the Eskimo of Coronation gulf.

From the time of coming into contact with them first at Bathurst inlet until arrival at Bernard harbour, the absence of children was noticeable, particularly of the female sex.

Upon making inquiries I learnt that the majority of female-born babies are thrown away as soon as they are born; and that a case occurred even during the past winter in this vicinity, when it is said that a young woman travelling with her husband between this place and the Coppermine river threw her newly born female child down a crack in the sea-ice. Also I am informed by Mr. Hoare of the Church of England Mission here that a woman who was in the settlement here last winter gave birth to a daughter and it was only by the intervention of Rev. Mr. Girling, in charge of the Church of England Mission, that this child did not suffer a similar fate.

These Eskimo when questioned concerning this practise make no effort to hide it, they freely admit this, and state that it has been a recognized custom as long as they can remember, particularly where twins are born, the woman not wanting to be troubled with a young babe, if a girl, when travelling.

I lectured them severely on this matter and endeavoured to show them the wrong of it, for, as it is at present, there are insufficient women for many of the eligible huskies to have a wife.

I have heard, on the Arctic coast, of no cases where a male child has been killed, and from what I can gather this practice of murdering female children is done usually when parties of Eskimo are travelling, or when the mother thinks that the child is a burden to her. I have heard of no cases where this practise is carried out when the natives remain in a permanent camp. It will be remembered that I reported on this

matter in 1912, but the information that I obtained at that time was exaggerated in many respects.

F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector*,
O. C. Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

The Commissioner.

Forwarded for his information.

W. H. ROUTLEDGE, *Supt.*,
Commanding "F" Division.

PRINCE ALBERT, 20-5-18.

The Officer Commanding,
R.N.W.M. Police, Prince Albert, Sask.

Forwarded.

W. J. BEYTS, *Inspector*,
Commanding Hudson Bay Sub-District.

PORT NELSON, Man., 20-3-18.

FOURTH REPORT—THE MURDER OF THE MISSIONARIES.

"M" DIVISION, R.N.W.M. POLICE,
BAKER LAKE DETACHMENT,
BERNARD HARBOUR, N.W.T., July 5, 1917.

Crime Report re Murder of two Roman Catholic Missionaries by Coppermine River Eskimos.

In connection with the above case, which I presume is now closed, I would state that when on the patrol from Bathurst inlet to Bernard harbour, I visited the United States gasoline schooner *Teddy Bear*, owned by Capt. Bernard.

In conversation with Capt. Bernard regarding the above murder he informed me that he had in his possession the priests' rifle, which they had when they met their fate. In fact it is said to be the very rifle with which one man was shot.

The rifle is a Mauser and there were a quantity of cartridges which I had to use on the return trip, with the rifle.

Capt. Bernard stated that he had obtained this rifle from a Coppermine Eskimo, who said that he had got it from one of the murderers now in custody; and it was his, (Capt. Bernard's) intention to present it to the college where the priests were educated as a relic. He further added that he had given another rifle (new) in trade for this one to the native which would be replaced.

I informed Capt. Bernard that I would take the rifle in question with me, until further instructions should be given as to what disposal would be made of same.

I made no attempt whatsoever to investigate this case as I presumed Inspector LaNauze had cleared this case up thoroughly. When in conversation with natives around the Coppermine river they spoke of this case freely and made no attempt to hide anything. From the information they gave me the case was nothing more than a cold-blooded premeditated murder.

I was camped amongst these Eskimo on the Coppermine river from the 4th September, 1917, to the 16th October, 1917, and during that time I had many conversations with them re this matter, and practically every native told the same story. If an

example is not made of these two murderers more trouble is bound to follow of a similar nature, as the natives of the Coppermine river, Dauphin, and Union straits, and Southwest Victoria island are a wild lawless bunch and the only thing that keeps them in check at the present time is the fear that they may be taken out.

F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector,*
O. C. Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

The Commissioner.

Forwarded for his information.

W. H. ROUTLEDGE, *Supt.,*
Commanding "F" Division.

PRINCE ALBERT, 20-5-18.

The Officer Commanding, -
R.N.W.M. Police, Prince Albert, Sask.

Forwarded.

W. J. BEYTS, *Inspector,*
Commanding Hudson's Bay Sub-district.

PORT NELSON, Man., 20-3-18.

FIFTH REPORT—ALLEGED MURDER OF ESKIMO WOMAN.

"M" DIVISION, R. N. W. M. POLICE,
BAKER LAKE DETACHMENT,
BERNARD HARBOUR, July 5, 1917.

Crime Report re Alleged Murder of Eskimo woman by Husband, Co-mak.

During our patrol in the Bathurst Inlet district we came into contact with some Killin-e-muits and during a conversation with them regarding the crime of killing people, both white men and amongst themselves, they said that a long time ago an Eskimo to the west had killed his wife. They could give no name or place, they had only heard it had happened a long time ago to the west. I made further inquiries regarding this affair, endeavouring to find out if there was anything to the story they told, but met with no results until reaching Bernard harbour.

At this point I was informed by Mr. Phillips, and also the story was corroborated by several natives, that an Eskimo woman was killed by a husky named Co-mak, during the past winter, in a native encampment off Cape Krusenstern.

The incidents relating to this affair are said to be as follows: Co-mak was living in the same igloo as the murdered woman and her husband; Co-mak had no wife of his own.

It is said that there were frequent rows amongst this trio and that Co-mak used, on occasions, to knock the woman about. On the occasion of the murder, Co-mak and the woman in question were said to be quarrelling and the woman caught up a knife and assumed a threatening attitude. Co-mak is said to have taken the knife from her and to have stabbed her in the shoulder and then to have kicked her in the abdomen. The woman is said to have succumbed not to the knife wound, but from the kick. She is said to have been in great agony before dying.

From inquiries, I am informed that Co-mak was mixed up in the murder of the two Roman Catholic Missionaries; he appears to be a bad native generally.

I am told that after killing this woman he left camp and went away up the Coppermine river to somewhere around Great Bear lake.

I will continue to keep a look-out for this man and endeavour to bring him to trial for this murder.

COPPERMINE RIVER, October 1, 1917.

Re the above case I have kept a constant lookout for this native all summer without any result until to-day, when some natives came into our camp and when questioned stated that they had seen Co-mak in midsummer between Great Bear lake and Great Slave lake. The way I am situated at present makes it impossible to try and effect this man's arrest, as I have only got food enough for my party for eight weeks at most, and I have to get out of the country as soon as possible as this is no place to be in winter time as there is no game up here except seals, and I will have to leave here as soon as we can travel, or both ourselves and our dogs will starve.

F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector,*
O.C. Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

The Officer Commanding,
R. N. W. M. Police,
Prince Albert, Sask.
Forwarded.

W. J. BEYTS, *Inspector,*
Commanding Hudson Bay Sub-district.

PORT NELSON, Man., 20-3-18.

The Commissioner.

Forwarded for his information.

W. H. ROUTLEDGE, *Supt.,*
Commanding "F" Division.

PRINCE ALBERT, 20-5-18.

STATEMENTS REGARDING THE ALLEGED MURDER.

"M" DIVISION, R. N. W. M. POLICE,
BAKER LAKE DETACHMENT, July 5, 1917.

Re *Alleged Murder of Esquimo Woman by Husband Co-mak. Statement of Native Tad-yuk.*

I am working for the Hudson's Bay Company at Bernard harbour. During the spring of 1917 there was a large encampment of natives off Cape Krusenstern and I was sent up there by Mr. Phillips (Hudson Bay Company's post manager) to trade.

Whilst I was in this encampment I heard that a woman had been killed by one of the huskies. The husky who killed the woman was named Co-mak. I heard that Co-mak lived in the same igloo as the woman and her husband and that they often had quarrels and that Co-mak was very jealous. The woman was said to have been killed about two days before I got to their camp. She and Co-mak were quarrelling and I heard that the woman took a knife to Co-mak and Co-mak took the knife off her and slashed her throat, and she eventually died after suffering much agony.

his
(Signed) TAD x YUK.
mark

Note of explanation.—The above-named native Tad-yuk is a civilized native, having worked continually for the last twenty years for the whalers and Hudson Bay Company at Herschel island, at which place he belongs. He speaks fairly good English and I feel satisfied from the many conversations I had with him that his statement is to be relied upon.

Apparently at the time that this affair took place there were no other eye-witnesses to the case than the woman's husband, and as far as I have been able to learn the only people in the igloo at the time were Co-mak, the woman and her husband. What part the husband took in the affair is not known, but he left the camp with Co-mak and as far as I was able to learn was still with him up till October. I should not be in the least surprised if the truth were known that the husband took part in the murder. For a patrol to be made in to Coronation gulf from Great Bear lake, to effect this man's arrest, it might be done in a short time or it might take six months or a year. I have no doubt at the present time that he is quite aware that the police are after him; consequently it is impossible to say where he might be found.

F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector,*
O. C. Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

Statement of Native A-von.

During last spring when the sun was very high there was a big camp of huskies to the east of here, on the ice. I was staying in this camp and while I was there a woman was killed by a husky named Co-mak. Co-mak lived in the same igloo as the woman and her husband. My igloo was close to them and I often heard them quarrelling. Co-mak was jealous of the woman's husband. I did not see the woman killed, but I was told that while quarrelling with Co-mak the woman picked up a knife and Co-mak kicked her in the stomach and snatched the knife off her and slashed her across the throat and she lay on the ice in agony for a long time before she died. I do not know where Co-mak is now; he generally goes to the Coppermine river during the summer.

his
(Signed) A x VON.
mark

Note of explanation.—Re the above-named native: This man was in the employ of the Canadian Arctic Expedition and was, I believe, more or less constantly with Mr. Jenness for a matter of two years. From what I saw of him while at Bernard harbour he is reliable and trustworthy and I believe his statement is to be relied upon.

F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector,*
O. C. Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

W. J. BEYTS, *Inspector,*
Commanding Hudson's Bay Sub-district.

W. H. ROUTLEDGE, *Supt.,*
Commanding "F" Division.

SIXTH REPORT—PATROLLING THE ARCTIC COASTLINE.

"F" DIVISION, R.N.W.M. POLICE,
BAKER LAKE DETACHMENT, January 31, 1918.

The Officer Commanding,
R.N.W.M. Police,
Port Nelson.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith a report covering the period from June 13, 1917, to September 1, 1917, whilst the patrol was in the Bernard harbour vicinity on the Arctic coast.

It was June 13 when we arrived at Bernard harbour, and we pitched camp near the Hudson's Bay Company's post. From this date forward the natives were kept busy hunting either seals or deer for dog feed, and while the ice remained we managed to get ample seals for this purpose.

I purchased a few supplies from time to time from the Hudson's Bay Company for the patrol the vouchers for which I will forward later.

The ice offshore was now showing signs of breaking up and seal hunting on the ice was almost finished. I learned of a small river running out on the coast about four miles east of the harbour where fish were caught; this river was said to be a resort of the natives during summer.

On July 9 we moved camp to this river and found quite a camp of No-ah-ho-min-muits gathered, engaged in spearing fish as they entered the river.

We pitched camp on the opposite side to the natives and in the days following were employed tending our fish nets or spearing the fish in the river, the same as the natives. Our catches were not at all large, but were sufficient to keep ourselves and dogs in meat. We were engaged in this manner until July 30, when the fishing petered out and we broke camp and returned to Bernard harbour.

At Bernard harbour we put out our fish nets. There were very few fish, but we were kept busy taking them up from time to time on account of the ice blowing into the harbour. We also built a 16-foot beacon on the west side of the harbour, which will serve as a good landmark for any vessel coming along.

Our deerskin clothing was unfit for further service, so I purchased a number of deerskins from the Hudson's Bay Company and put our natives scraping the same and got them made into clothing for all members of the party for use as soon as the fall commenced.

Time went on, the natives hunting and getting an occasional seal or deer. Up to August 31 no vessel had put in an appearance, so I made up my mind to take an outfit of supplies and move the whole of my outfit down to the mouth of the Coppermine river; at this point I would fish until freeze-up and then return overland to Baker Lake; I would be able to get driftwood for fuel at this point, as they only had a small quantity of oil at Bernard harbour for our lamps.

Mr. Phillips, of the Hudsons Bay Company, very kindly loaned me his shotgun and we purchased shell from the Hudson's Bay Company, and as a result we were able to keep ourselves fairly well supplied with ducks and geese and other water fowl.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector,*
O.C. Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

The Officer Commanding,
R.N.W.M. Police,
Prince Albert, Sask.

Forwarded.

W. J. BEYTS, *Inspector,*
Commanding Hudson's Bay Sub-district.

PORT NELSON, Man., 20-3-18.

The Commissioner.

Forwarded for his information.

W. H. ROUTLEDGE, *Supt.,*
Commanding "F" Division.

PRINCE ALBERT, 20-5-18.

SEVENTH REPORT—THE RETURN TO BAKER LAKE.

"F" DIVISION, R.W.M. POLICE,
BAKER LAKE DETACHMENT, January 31, 1918.

The Officer Commanding,
R.W.M. Police,
Port Nelson.

SIR,—I have the honour to render herewith a report covering the period from September 1, 1917, to January 29, 1918, in connection with Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

During the latter part of August while at Bernard harbour all game such as deer, fish, seals, etc., began to get scarce and as the supplies at the Hudson's Bay Company's post were little more than sufficient to carry them through the coming winter, I determined to move camp to the Coppermine river and wait there till freeze up.

I purchased about two months' supplies from the Hudson's Bay Company for the party, and I also took a small quantity of foodstuffs from the cache of the Canadian Arctic Expedition at Bernard harbour, a list of which I forwarded with reports. I was unable to get ammunition for our .303 rifles and so I was forced to purchase two .30-30 rifles from the Hudson's Bay Company; I also procured a quantity of fish nets for use at the Coppermine river while waiting for freeze up.

Through the kindness of Mr. Phillips, Hudson's Bay Company's post manager at Bernard harbour I obtained the use of two whale boats to convey our outfit to the Coppermine, a distance of 150 miles.

On September 1, 1917, we left Bernard harbour and I sent three natives with our dogs across country to the Coppermine. Our party arrived safely on September 4 and included a new member in the person of a white man named Albin Kihlman, of Norwegian nationality, whom I have previously mentioned as having met him at Tree river last spring.

This man was left by Capt Bernard, of the schooner *Teddy Bear*, and owing to no vessels arriving was unable to get out to civilization; he did not possess sufficient supplies to see him through the oncoming winter, so I considered it better to see him out of the country overland, as in all probability he would have become destitute if left on the coast.

During the early part of our stay at the Coppermine we hauled a quantity of driftwood, sufficient to tide us over until we were ready to start south. We employed our time in fishing and made good in this respect and put a quantity on racks and in rock caches along the river. Also we had to make new harness for all our dogs and refix the sleds and overhaul the outfit generally, preparatory to returning overland to Baker lake.

I intended to leave as soon as possible either overland from the Coppermine and strike the south end of Bathurst inlet, or, if the coast froze up first, to follow it as before.

Whilst at the Coppermine I got the canoe that was left by Inspector LaNauze and this was very handy for us when tending our nets. The two canoes I carried from Baker lake I disposed of to the Hudson's Bay Company, at Bernard harbour, rather than haul them back again. During our stay at this point a large encampment of Wad-le-ar-ing-muits were at Bloody falls, about 12 miles up the river, and these natives were employed fishing below the falls.

Also whilst here a band of seventeen Indians arrived overland from Fort Rae and Great Bear Lake districts on a visit to a white settler who is located at the mouth of the Coppermine river, by the name of Charles Klinkenberg, of Danish extraction, employed in trapping and trading in a small way.

These Indians after a short stay returned to the above-mentioned places, and I gave one of them, who spoke a little English, a letter giving a few details of our patrol and instructed him to give it to the first white man or member of the force he might meet, thinking in this way I might get word outside of our whereabouts.

During the early days of October it began to get colder and ice began to form along the river. The encampment of natives who were at Bloody falls, moved down to the mouth of the river, waiting for freeze-up. During their stay I gave them lectures regarding civilized laws, etc., through our interpreter, Joe. It was from this tribe the two natives came, who were responsible for the murder of the two Roman Catholic missionaries.

On October 16, 1917, we made our start by sled from the Coppermine river, proceeding east along the shore about 8 miles. On October 17 and 18 we proceeded in a southeast direction and experienced a very rough and rocky passage, as the rivers and lakes were hardly frozen enough to bear the sleds; in fact, the country was so bad that we only covered 16 miles in two days, travelling 8 hours per day. In view of this and the fact that the country ahead appeared rough also, I considered it advisable to return to the Arctic coast and continue along the sea ice. On October 20 we arrived back at the coast about 18 miles east of the Coppermine and made camp on a small river.

Here we remained until October 28, and while here we made a trip back to our old camp at the mouth of the Coppermine and hauled up two sled loads of fish from the caches we had left there, and also hauled driftwood for cooking. Our dogs, 30 in number, were all in fair condition to commence the overland patrol, and I considered they would take us through if we could procure game until we reached Thelon river.

On October 28 we again broke camp and proceeded along the Arctic coast towards the mouth of Bathurst inlet. I would not have started so early, but I wished to reach the head of Bathurst inlet by the time the gulf became frozen over as then the deer would begin to cross from Victoria and Wollaston lands, and we would have them travelling south with us.

Our journey along the coast was very strenuous, as a man had to proceed ahead of the teams with spear and test the ice and many times we had a narrow shave of a sled going through.

On October 31 we saw the first deer crossing over from Victoria land, one huge herd and several smaller bands, and we hunted same and procured 11 heads.

The weather up to this time had been mild and it seemed to be a late season considering it was so far north of the Arctic circle; in some places we experienced some difficulty in getting through on account of the poor condition of the ice and the lack of snow on the land. Also we had had storms at times, the snow melting as soon as it landed and wet our clothes and most of our outfit.

We reached Tree river on November 6, and at this point we had to make a detour inland and back again to the coast, owing to a gale having broken up the ice and driven it out to sea.

On November 12 we reached Bathurst inlet. Our dogs had not been very well fed of late and were beginning to look somewhat poor after the hard hauling they had had along the coast. On this date, about 3 p.m., we saw five deer in the inlet and shot them, which came in time to give our dogs a good feed.

The travelling down Bathurst inlet was very heavy, the snow soft and deep, and we made very slow progress. On November 15 we camped on the south side of Arctic sound and met some Killin-a-muits, with whom we traded for some dried deer meat, fat and skins. November 18 our grub was getting low and not one-third of our journey was completed. I abandoned the canoe left by Inspector LaNauze on November 19; this I had brought with me along the coast in case we should require to ferry the outfit over any open waters we might meet. I also cast a broken thermos flask and a double-wick oil lamp; these were left near the island where Messrs. Radford and Street were murdered. On this same date we arrived at an island west of Gordon bay at which we found a camp of three igloos, one native being U-luk-sak, who was employed by Inspector LaNauze on the Roman Catholic missionaries' case. I traded with these natives for dried deer meat and cache deer meat, also deerskin clothes, etc.

At this point also were several relatives of the native woman Solomon, who had so far accompanied the patrol. Owing to the fact that she had been suffering from an abscess in the ear all summer and fall the natives said it would be best to leave her with her uncle. This I deemed advisable as we did not know what was ahead of us and had yet a long way to go and the natives stated they would repair their clothing the best way they could. She is to be brought back to Baker lake by her uncle in the spring.

It had been our intention when starting out to proceed to the foot of the inlet and south from there, but we heard from the natives that there was a river in Gordon bay which took its source from somewhere near the Coog-nay-uk or Ellis river, so I determined to proceed along this as I thought the sooner we struck land the better off we should be for obtaining fresh deer meat. We broke camp November 21 and travelled southeast over Gordon bay; on the 22nd we reached the mouth of the river, above mentioned, and here we found a large quantity of deer carcasses strewn all along the banks of the river under the snow. These had evidently been speared from ki-aks by the natives before freeze-up and their skins only taken. It was a great waste of meat, but it came handy to us, and we made camp and turned our dogs loose, and we also picked out a few good ones and packed them on the sleds. Previous to our arrival here there had been a great gathering of wolves, wolverines and ravens, etc., all feasting on the carcasses.

On November 23 we proceeded along this river in a southeasterly direction through very high, rocky embankments. This river proved very winding and on the 24th we quit it and went overland. On the 25th and 26th November, we shot six deer, and this cheered everybody up, as we were very low on food; in fact we had been eating slightly rotten dried deer meat for some days and to get a feed of fresh deer meat put life and new vigour into all. On the 27th we continued overland, but found the going so rocky that we were compelled to return to the river again. At this point we were molested continually by bands of wolves; these same animals are the biggest species of wolf I have ever seen. They are dark brown and rangy, and bigger than a timber wolf, and they got away with one of our dogs while we were passing through these mountainous regions.

November 29 we left the river and proceeded in a southeasterly direction overland, following a series of small lakes with very rocky portages. November 30 we saw seven deer about noon and hunted and shot them and gave the dogs a good feed.

On December 1 we continued on over a very rocky and barren country on which there was very little snow. The weather was very fine and calm and clear, and continued so throughout the month, much to our sorrow, as we were not able to get near the deer and obtain food and dog meat, which was so badly needed for the upkeep of our outfit. On December 4 we reached and crossed the Ellis river. Our clothes by this time were showing signs of needing repair, as they had been wet with the fall travelling and now were continually frozen since meeting up with the cold spells.

I left the Coppermine river with 15 gallons of coal oil (all I could obtain) and had to be very careful with this, as I knew it would not see us home.

I had a horror of using moss again after last spring, so our clothes had to remain wet or frozen as the weather chose to let them. Our footgear was the one cause of worry, as we only had a small quantity and with the continual walking we were kept busy patching up the same.

On December 5 we sent the natives deer hunting and they stated that they saw huge herds of them but owing to the calm, clear weather could not get near them and only after shooting lots of ammunition at long range did they succeed in knocking down five.

December 12 we reached Backe's river, striking it about where Baillie river runs in from the south. The weather still remained fine and clear and our dogs were not getting the meat they should have to keep them in condition to meet the oncoming severe weather.

December 12 and 13 we proceeded east along Backe's river and made camp near Gervois river and fed our dogs the last small portion of dried meat. December 13 we left Backe's river and proceeded south, heading for the Thelon river, intending to try and locate Inspector Beyts' cache made at the timber in November, 1916. If we could reach this and find it intact it would mean a lot to us. December 14 and 15 our dogs were not fed but on December 16 Sergt.-Major Caulkin managed to drop one deer and this we fed to the dogs, who were now showing signs of weakness and matters looked tough.

We abandoned one sled and tarp, and split the dogs amongst the other teams. During the past week all spare men were out in extended order ahead of the teams endeavouring to get close to the deer, which were plentiful, but all to no avail. It was hardly creditable but we could not get near them and they would be off, as it was so calm and clear, and one could not avoid the deadly scrunch of feet on the snow which always alarmed the deer and put them to flight.

On December 17 we had no luck again and got no deer, and we had to resort to a method of feeding our dogs which struck deep into all of us, for we shot five of the weakest dogs and skinned them for the night's dogfeed.

December 18 the dogs were not fed and they stole a bag of deerskin clothing which they ate.

December 19 there were three men ahead of the sleds all day but only saw three deer and the Sergt.-Major succeeded in bringing on of these down, which we fed the dogs that night.

December 20 we were proceeding over rolling prairie land and very level, but we saw no game and very few tracks. December 21 was the same and we fed the dogs one deerskin cut up in small pieces. On this date we came upon a river running south and presume this ran into Thelon river. December 22 we continued along this river and came on to the first signs of stunted spruce trees. Several dogs were exhausted and fell from time to time. At noon we saw fresh musk-ox tracks crossing the river and going to the westward. I sent two natives on foot to look for same and proceeded about 10 miles farther along the river to where we could be near some timber and get water and there we made camp to await the return of our two hunters. On this night we shot five of the exhausted dogs and skinned and fed them to the other dogs. Our own food supply consisted of about 15 pounds of frozen deer-meat. December 23 we stayed in our igloo and two natives dragged a load of spruce trees to the igloo.

At 2.30 p.m. our two hunters arrived from the west and almost knocked us down with the news that they had shot 20 musk ox about 10 miles from the igloo. On December 23 I sent all natives and dogs up to the scene of the killing, here they were to dress the musk ox, feed up and rest the dogs. On December 25 natives Quashak and Joe arrived with two sled loads of musk ox meat and we enjoyed a big feed for Christmas night. We remained in this locality until January 3, 1918. The dogs were getting all they could eat and were picking up again. On December 31 Sergeant-Major Caulkin and Native Joe went southwest with team to look for the cache of supplies put in by Inspector Beyts in November, 1915, which they found about 13 miles from the igloo.

The cache had broken down and what remained of the stores was under snow, but they salvaged about 70 pounds flour, 4 tins of Oxo, 10 pounds H.B. tobacco, 4 pounds chewing tobacco, and 13 pounds candles. This was all that could be found, for the wolves had evidently been at the cache, for the Sergt.-Major reported that one sack of flour was scattered, the lard pails were bitten through and cleaned up, even the molasses keg was shattered and the tops were off the tins containing salt, pepper, baking powder, etc., and those latter were all scattered on the ground and unfit for consumption.

However, we greatly appreciated what we did get as we were out of tobacco and had been smoking dried-out tea leaves for some time and to get a meal of bannock from the flour was a great boon to us.

On January 2 all teams arrived from the musk ox camp, all meat was hauled down to our igloo with the exception of three musk ox which were left in cache, as I intend to send up in the spring for the remainder of Inspector Beyt's cache, such as tools, tent stove, etc., and we made a cache here also of everything, loading up meat and sleeping bags on three sleds.

On January 3 we started and arrived on the Thelon river in the early morning, and proceeded east along same towards Beverly lake, but going was slow owing to heavy loads of meat carried.

On January 4 one dog, who had swallowed pieces of bone took sick and died. January 5 we reached Beverly lake and camped on island in centre. Here we were held up two days by a heavy blizzard, the first storm since leaving the Arctic coast. We were fortunate in being able to find a little driftwood on this island. On January 10 we reached Aberdeen lake as we were making better progress by this time as our loads of meat were getting smaller each night. On this date we saw deer for the first time since leaving the height of land, but it was too calm and we could not get near them.

On January 11 and 12 we travelled east over Aberdeen lake; on the 12th there was a heavy drift from the northwest which later developed into a bad storm and it was during this storm, which lasted for several days, that our natives got lost and took us some 70 or 80 miles south. We should not have travelled any other time in such weather had it not been for the fact that our dog food supply at this time was again getting low, and we wished to push on and get as near as possible to Baker lake with the dogs. On January 15 we were somewhere south of Schultz lake and we broke up and burned a sled, leaving us now with two sleds.

On January 16 our dogs were getting down again in condition and I was forced to kill three dogs to feed the others. On January 17 one bitch, Tac-chack, had a litter of 7 pups and these were all eaten up by the dogs. On the 18th we saw native signs and two igloos and came to the conclusion that we were getting in the vicinity of the Kazan River natives. This was the first day since January 12 that we had been able to see any distance. January 18, 19 and 20 we were down to soup only and none of us were feeling any benefit from it, although it kept us alive, but we felt rather groggy about the knees towards night after tramping all day and we were now feeling the cold and our clothing was sadly in need of repairs.

Good fortune again came our way on January 21. We were heading on a north-east course to Baker lake when we came over a high hill and saw a band of 15 deer on a flat below us; we hunted same and shot 10 after some smart manoeuvring. This put a new aspect on matters and the natives were much brighter, as they had been very downhearted and ready to quit us. In fact, native Joe told me that two of the huskies wanted them to take some of the meat and run off and leave us, as they were still under the impression that we were going in the wrong direction.

However, the 10 deer cheered us all up, the dogs were well fed and we had a big banquet of back steak and blood soup. January 23 we travelled northeast. On the 24th we remained in our igloo as it was very stormy and cold. Native Bye and Bye went 10 miles northeast and found a river running north with several sled tracks on it. On January 25 we proceeded along this river to the north; its banks are very low and in some places it was so wide that it resembled a lake instead of a river. On January 26 we continued along it, and at 9.30 a.m. we came to the mouth and found ourselves at the southwest end of Baker lake. The day was fine and clear and we could see the island where the Hudson Bay Company's post was and we were all greatly overjoyed to see some land we knew after an absence of over ten months.

We made the Hudson Bay Company's post in the afternoon and were kindly greeted by Mr. Ford, the post manager and given the best of food.

We stayed there the 27th January, and thawed out a little. January 28 we made a long point on the south shore. On the 29th we arrived at the detachment all well and glad to get home.

I have not attempted to make these reports flowery or go into descriptive details, but have simply dealt with cold-blooded facts. I again respectfully wish to bring to your notice Reg. No. 4557, Sergt.-Major Caulkin, T.B. This non-commissioned officer has been of the greatest assistance to me and I have always found him absolutely trustworthy and reliable and he has at all times proved himself to be a man. I also wish to bring to your notice Police Natives Joe and Bye and Bye. These natives put their heart entirely in the trip and under the most trying circumstances always stood by me and I consider that they should receive some suitable reward over and above their wages as a recognition of their services.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

F. H. FRENCH, *Inspector,*
O.C. Bathurst Inlet Patrol.

W. J. BEYTS, *Inspector,*
Commanding Hudson's Bay Sub-district.

W. H. ROUTLEDGE, *Supt.,*
Commanding "F" Division.



